

The Drayton Valley

Western Review

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Tuesday, December 10, 2013



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A FESTIVE PERSPECTIVE



There's no better way to spend a Friday night than having lots of fun with the special people in your life, and that's just what area residents did on Dec. 6 for St. Anthony School's annual Winter Wonderland Fair. From Christmas shopping to games, there was a little bit of everything for everyone, including some fun with hula hoops.

Lesley Allen Western Review

Brazeau County councillors approve interim budget for 2014

As ratepayers will know after the heavy winter weather seen so far this season, the importance of having adequate urban and rural snow removal equipment is important. Council has approved

Wastewater has been given an interim budget of \$1,550,000 for 2014, including utility extensions (generically valued at \$50,000, and the Birchwood SAGR System for \$1,500,000/carryover \$25,000).

Last week council heard that with how the budget is currently sitting a tax increase is not expected, but true numbers will not be known until April 2014 when the budget is finalized.

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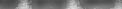
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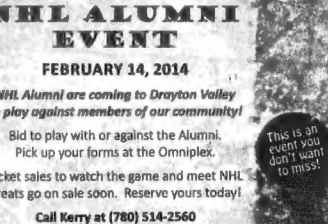
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CLASSES WILL BE CANCELLED
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December 22nd 10:30am
at Cardium Theater
The Hobbit 2:
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Ages 12-18
Tickets \$4.00
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Must be brought in advance at the
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P.O.U.R. PROGRAM
Protecting Our Ultimate Resource (POUR)

The POUR program applies to any and all property owners connected to Town water service who choose to install water saving devices which reduce the amount of water consumed in their residences. These devices are:

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Committee application forms can be found on the town website. For more information, please call 780-514-2562.

Opportunities can be found in the classifieds Career Section or on our website www.draytonvalley.ca

Upcoming Council Meetings
 Regular meeting of Town Council
 Wednesday
 7:00pm - 9:00pm
 Council Chamber, Town Office 6

Your Councilors

						
Meyer Glenn McLean 780.514.3568	Nicole Neuhaus 780.514.3564	Graham Long 780.514.3484	Dean Shaller 780.514.3119	Henny McClure 780.514.3431	Payroll Wheeler 780.514.3055	Deb Hazlett 780.514.3068

Town Office Civic Centre 5120 - 52 Street | Tel. 780.514.2200 | Fax. 780.542.5753 | Box 6837 Drayton Valley T7A 1A1 | 8:30am - 4:30pm | 24hr Info Line 780.514.2220

Early Childhood Development Centre 780.514.2248 | Downtown Library (Civic Centre) 780.514.2223 | Mackenzie Conference Centre 780.514.2233
 Park & Ride 780.514.2225 | Refuse (Civic) Holy Trinity Anglican 780.514.2528 | Councilplex 780.514.2034

news

CELEBRATING THE BIRTH OF JESUS



Paul Brian Western Review

The Drayton Valley Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints presented its annual live nativity Dec. 3 and 4 re-enacting the birth of Jesus with church members playing the roles of Mary, Joseph, the shepherds, the angels and the wise men. There were even some apocals who tagged along in the place of camels.



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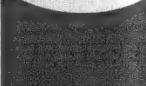
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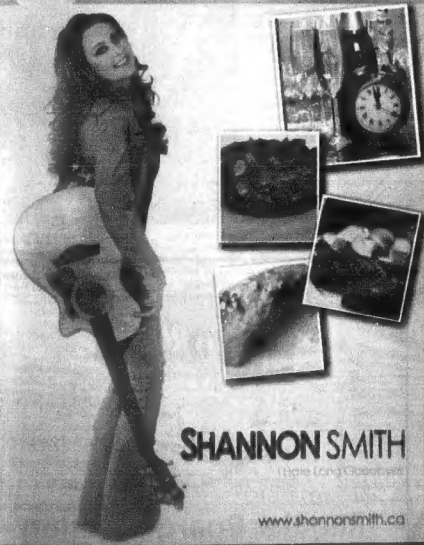
- 6-8pm, your choice of our specialty:
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- Smoked Prime Rib

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- A Bottle of Spumante Champagne
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news

SING WE NOW OF CHRISTMAS



On Dec. 8 local residents were getting in the spirit of Christmas as the Valley Voices Community Choir presented its annual winter show with the title *Sing We Now of Christmas* for this year's holiday season. Performing to a packed house, the highly popular local choir shared a variety of classical Christmas songs, but also got the audience up on their feet and singing to a few songs to make it an interactive afternoon.

Lesley Allan
Western Review



news

Courtesy Whelan
Western Review

LYING TO POLICE LANDS MAN IN JAIL

A man was sentenced to five months in jail last week after pleading guilty to four separate charges. Skyler Claybrook appeared in Drayton Valley Provincial Court via CCTV on Dec. 3 and entered guilty pleas to fraudulently impersonating another person, driving with no insurance, driving while unauthorized and speeding. The charges stem from an incident on Hwy 17.

On that day RCMP travelling north on Hwy. 22 saw a truck they believed to be speeding and pulling south. Police activated the lights on their vehicle, but the truck did not stop, instead pulling into a private driveway. Police located the truck and pulled it in as well, noting the registration on the vehicle was expired. When police approached the driver they also determined the vehicle had no valid insurance.

When the driver was informed the

vehicle would be towed he became agitated. Police asked him to identify himself, but became suspicious when he was asked to spell his name and gave a different spelling than appeared on the documentation that had been presented. Despite that the driver insisted the name he gave was his own, a story that was backed up by the other person in the truck. Police then issued the tickets to the name given.

However, the officer remained suspicious and further investigation of the truck after the incident showed Claybrook's name associated with a number of other incidents connected to the vehicle. The officer then requested a photo of Claybrook. When the photos arrived they showed that Claybrook had indeed been the driver. He was then located and charged with giving a false name.

Last week the court heard that the name Claybrook had given to police was that of his brother, who has a different surname.

"This is a case where this man was willing to do anything to get away with this," said Crown Prosecutor Ronald

Drayton Valley Court briefs

Hogan.

He noted that due to their suspicious police had waited to file the original tickets, stopping Claybrook's brother from being in front of the courts for an incident he was involved in.

Hogan was asking the court to consider a three-month jail term for the impersonation charges and fines for the other charges. He did note that Claybrook had previous no insurance charges and was looking for a \$7,000 fine on that offence.

The lawyer acting on behalf of Claybrook was asking the court to consider a shorter sentence of one month in jail, or time served in recognition of the time spent in pre-sentence custody. He said Claybrook cares about his brother and never intended to get him in trouble. He indicated that had anything actually happened with the tickets his client had

intended to come forward.

In response to Hogan's assertion that Claybrook's lie resulted in extra work for the officer involved, the lawyer told the court there was a relatively short time window between the original incident and when police determined Claybrook was the actual driver.

"I didn't think," Claybrook told the court prior to being sentenced.

Judge B. H. Fraser sentenced Claybrook to three months in jail for impersonating his brother and instead of issuing a fine for no insurance, sentenced Claybrook to spend an additional two months in jail on that charge, for a total of five months in custody. He was also sentenced to one day (to be served concurrently) for driving while unauthorized and given a fine for speeding.

"You won't be having a very Merry Christmas etc, but that's of your own

design," said Fraser.

LOADED GUNS RESULT IN FINES

A 21-year-old found with two loaded guns in his vehicle paid a hefty fine last week after pleading guilty to the charges. In the afternoon of Sept. 23 last and wildlife officers approached Tyson Beckett after finding him firing a gun to make sure he had the appropriate documentation.

After further investigation the officer found that Beckett had two guns in his vehicle, both of them loaded and one of them loaded and cocked.

"The court heard last week that Beckett had been charged with the same offence last year as well.

"Why would you even contemplate having a loaded gun in your vehicle?" asked Judge B.H. Fraser.

He issued Beckett a \$1,500 fine for the offence.

RCMP briefs

Courtesy Whelan
Western Review

CHILD KILLED IN COLLISION

A four-year-old girl has been killed after a single vehicle collision in the early morning hours of Dec. 1.

Emergency services including Drayton and Drayton Valley RCMP, EMS and Portland County Fire Services were called to the collision on Hwy. 759 near Range Road 515 shortly after 2 a.m.

The initial RCMP investigation reveals that a vehicle with five occupants was travelling south on Hwy. 759 north of Tumbach when it left the road, eventually coming to rest in the road ditch.

As a result of the collision the four-year-old, from Wetsaskwin, was ejected from the vehicle. She died at the scene. A 27-year-old woman, a 21-year-old man and two other female passengers, a one-year-old and a three-month-old, all from Wetsaskwin, were taken to hospital in Drayton Valley with undetermined injuries. All four have since been released from the hospital.

The 21-year-old was arrested and has been charged with a number of breach of transportation charges related to matters currently before the courts of the Malheur Detachment (Hobbs).

TWO ARRESTED AFTER SEARCH WARRANT

Drayton Valley RCMP arrested two people after conducting a search warrant in Rosseau County.

Police carried out the search warrant on Nov. 30 at a location on Hwy. Road 406. At the location police noted

ered a 2009 Tacoma pickup truck that had been reported stolen as well as an enclosed off-highway vehicle trailer that had been reported stolen from Rocky Rapids on Nov. 28.

The two individuals were arrested at the scene.

BURST WEEK FOR THIEVES

A number of vehicle owners across the Drayton Valley detachment areas found themselves the victims of thefts last week.

Drayton Valley RCMP were dealing with 10 separate reports of thefts from vehicles across the detachment area. A variety of items were stolen in the thefts, including, in one instance, gym clothes and running shoes.

Many of the reports involved the culprit gaining access to the vehicles by breaking windows.

TRUCK STOLEN FROM TOWN

A truck stolen on Nov. 20 from Drayton Valley was found a few days later by police.

RCMP received a report of a 1997 Ford F150 being stolen from 50 Ave. on Nov. 25. Then, on Dec. 3, an officer acting on a tip located and recovered the stolen truck.

BRIGHT HOME SOUGHT FOR HOCKEY EQUIPMENT

Drayton Valley RCMP is hoping to return hockey equipment that was turned into them on Nov. 30. Hockey pants, socks and shin pads were turned into the detachment after a passerby noticed the items in a ditch near Valleyview Estates.

Anyone who believes the equipment belongs to them is asked to either call Drayton Valley RCMP at 780-542-4487.

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Regular Board Meeting

December 17, 2013 at 9:00am
Lakeview Inn and Suites Hotel
in the Oak room.

4302-50th Street, Drayton Valley

Everyone Welcome

Comment

The Drayton Valley
Western Review

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our editorial

Brazeau County has right idea with budget process

It's that time of year in the life of a municipality where council members are looking at proposed budget numbers and getting their financial plan lined up for 2014.

Administration staff have already been working for months to get their budgets prepared to present to councillors for operations as well as additional projects they want to take on. The standard practice is now for municipalities to pass interim budgets that allow for the continued day-to-day operations, with final budgets and tax rates to come next spring.

Brazeau County passed its interim budget last week and the Town of Drayton Valley is set to approve its interim budget at this week's council meeting.

The budget process is a grueling one for administration and councillors. All involved are striving to make the available dollars work in the most efficient way while still providing a high level of service.

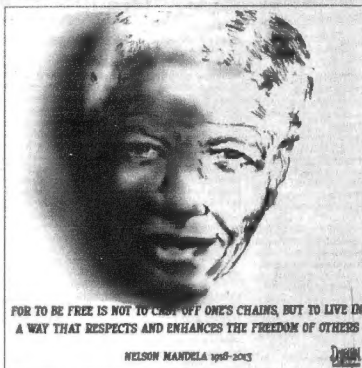
It takes a lot of background work by both administration and council to get the budget ready for presentation and approval. While budgets can be confusing for those not familiar with

them, many ratepayers are interested in how public money is being allocated and spent.

Last month Brazeau County held three sessions where staff had the chance to give councillors an overview of their department's portion of the budget and allow questions to be asked and answered. It can be safely assumed that the Town of Drayton Valley has been holding similar sessions. The difference is that Brazeau County advertises its budget sessions and held them in council chambers.

While it may not have been the most popular show in the area, advertising the sessions and holding them in the public chambers gives residents an opportunity to listen in on the process if they so choose. Additionally, next year Brazeau County will once again hold a series of open houses for the public to give them a breakdown of the budget and seek input on additional projects being considered.

The county's decision to have an open budget process is a good one. It allows residents who are interested to get a broader understanding of how money is being spent beyond just a line on a document.



FOR TO BE FREE IS NOT TO CAST OFF ONE'S CHAINS, BUT TO LIVE IN A WAY THAT RESPECTS AND ENHANCES THE FREEDOM OF OTHERS

NELSON MANDELA 1918-2013

Here's your friggin' Christmas card

Something happens to my great ideas between formulation and execution — they turn into horrible ideas.

The most recent proof was my ambitious plan to create hand-made and personalized Christmas cards to send to friends and family. Now, you read that and thought "Oh, what a thoughtful way for Courtney to let the people she cares about know she's thinking of them." That's what I thought at the time.

Armed with the knowledge that my good intentions can sometimes go awry, I started off well. I formulated a plan of attack so that making the cards and adding in a personal note to each recipient would be an enjoyable and festive experience.

To avoid creative burnout I purchased a card-making kit that included everything I needed to make 15 cards in three Christmas months. "Oh Whalen, you're off to a good start!" I thought as I put the kit down in the scrapbook nook to await assembly.

Being a large fan of lists, I then set about writing a list of the lucky recipients of what were destined to be the most epic Christmas cards of all time. The completed list gave me slight pause, coming in at 20 names for that 15 cards provided for in my kit. However, I was



There and Back
Courtney Whalen

so organized I shrugged off that minor detail. I could just whip up the additional 11 cards when the time came.

I then surprised myself by actually sitting aside a night and getting the first 15 cards actually made. They looked pretty good and I was eager to take up my pen to start jotting witty notes guaranteed to make those on the recipients list shake their heads and exclaim, "Oh Courtney, you're so funny, yet thoughtful!"

Mid-November I took a week off from work where the sole focus was to be Christmas related. I envisioned myself sitting down to write these cards while sipping hot chocolate with a Christmas movie playing in the background.

It's here where the idea starts its downward spiral. On my week off I wrote exactly zero cards. With plenty of yesterday left, I shrugged it off. But as weeks have

continued to go by and names were not stricken off the list I started to panic. I set myself a deadline to have them all completed and mailed. That deadline is no longer mine. I can't even remember what it was.

I have slowly and agonizingly been making headway over the past few weeks. I originally thought I'd be able to blast off the first 15 in a matter of a few hours. As a wrangler of words I should be a simple enough task to pen a short personal note that the standard Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. Plus, for those I haven't spoken to in awhile, it's nice to give them a little update.

In reality the process was painstakingly slow and no amount of hot chocolate made it more enjoyable. I was lucky to get three completed in an entire evening. Just last week I got the first 15 finished and heaved a sigh of relief, until I remembered that I now had to make and fill out another 11 cards. That process clearly needs to be expedited.

I hope those on my Christmas card list enjoy the masterpiece that is receiving this year because next year it's a sure bought card with nothing more than my name written inside.

opinion

Should you fake it this Christmas?

Oh Christmas tree, oh Christmas tree, which should I buy evergreen or not?

With the Christmas season upon us a great debate among those who celebrate the holiday has begun — should we buy a real or fake tree?

There are many reasons why one chooses to go in either direction, but the one I find people get most concerned about is how each of the options affects the environment, and which one is truly greener.

I have always gone with real, as has my partner Ben. There's nothing more magical than going to the tree lot and fighting amongst family members about which tree is better. Often times a subtle battle between myself and my sister would result in something unexpected. No, we couldn't imagine not getting a tree at all, but I won't lie about the fact that our inability to agree had resulted in a house with two trees for more than one Christmas.

Even today Ben and I choose to trek out into the wilderness and cut down our own tree, after obtaining a permit from ESRD for a measly \$5. This not only gives us an opportunity to spend time together getting lost in the woods, but also kills two birds with one stone as our dog Hank comes along for a walk.

Many people look at this and say that's your right to cut down trees, or kill



Lesley's Lessons
Lesley Allan

them just for a holiday, but is one small tree being chopped down worse than a chemical-ridden plastic tree thrown in the dump?

I judge no one on the choice they make when it comes to choosing fake or real, but I do believe it's important to know the facts about both if you're truly debating between which one is better for the environment.

According to Ellipsos, a research company based out of South Carolina, an artificial tree has three times more impact on climate change and resource depletion than the natural tree, based on a six-year retention of the fake tree. However, if you are to keep the same fake tree for at least 20 years the opposite becomes true, especially if longer distances of transportation are required in order to access the real trees.

The reasons for a real tree being more environmentally friendly include the

fact that they are easily recycled and can be reused, they pull carbon from the air to help grow, and because of the environmental footprint it takes to make fake trees.

Regardless of the fact and which direction you decide to go there are ways you can help reduce your footprint:

- Real Christmas Trees
- Buy locally.
- Choose trees from farms that minimize (or do without) pesticides and herbicides.

— Cut your own with a provincial permit, from lands that must be kept clear anyway. In many provinces, hydro right-of-ways have to be kept clear. This is a win-win way to meet that mandate.

— Artificial Christmas Trees

- Avoid PVCs (the worst of plastics) that most artificial trees are made of. Not only are these hard on the environment, but they're bad for your health.
- Make it last 20 years!

Not happy with either of those options and looking to make you Christmas even greener? Why not opt for a living Christmas tree, potted trees which are becoming more and more popular across the country.

Around the water cooler...

When? We just about froze our little bells off at the end of last week! Luckily the Christmas Spirit is keeping us warm.

We've also got some very warm birthday wishes to share with you this week.

The lovely, the charming, the super-duperly stylish (and surprisingly crude!) Jennifer Stone is celebrating the day of her birth on Dec. 13. She's creeping close to the 30 club, but we'll let her have this one last year to enjoy her 29th. May your day be filled with birthday surprises and Grandma's spaghetti.

Also celebrating this week (on Dec. 12) is the lovely, the charming, the super-duperly stylish (and shockingly loud!) Brady Erickson. The woman has a laugh that can light up a room, and the disbelief we're wishing her a wonderful birthday and

year ahead that gives her lots of room to laugh about! If those two birthdays weren't enough, we also have two other special birthday greetings to send out.

Celebrating on Dec. 16 is the indomitable Donna Hanson. Have a wonderful day Donna!

Also celebrating on Dec. 16 is the sweet and sassy Holly Davis. Hopefully you get to enjoy some cake on your special day Holly!

Be sure to check through the pages of this week's edition to learn more about events coming up in our area leading up to Christmas. School notebook is the place to turn for all the dirt on school Christmas concerns.

Now a reminder: from our sales department about how you can enter to win \$500. It's as easy as turning to the Gift Guide in this week's paper and filling out

the ballots. Drop your ballot off at the participating businesses and if you're name is drawn you'll have the chance to be entered into a draw for \$500! The prize draw will be made on Dec. 23 at 3 p.m. Full contest rules can be found in the Gift Guide. See, it couldn't be easier!

This item appeared in last week's water cooler, but it bears repeating. Our annual Christmas Greetings will be appearing in the Dec. 24 edition of the paper. This year we want to share some of the treasured traditions of local families. What does your family do every year at Christmas? Share your tradition or favourite family Christmas recipe with us by e-mailing courtney.whalen@sunmedia.ca.

That's all we have for you this time around. Have a super seasonal week!



780-542-2644 • 780-542-2719

SAFETY COURSE SCHEDULE

#3, 5606 - 55 Street

Classes Start at 8:00 a.m.

DECEMBER 2013

Thursday, December 12th..... H2S Alive

Friday, December 13th..... 4 Hour Fall Arrest

Merri Christmas

We will be closed from

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The Drayton Valley

Western Review

Early Holiday
Deadlines:

These are our early advertising deadlines
because of the Christmas Holidays!

MONDAY, DECEMBER 23RD AT 5:00 PM

is the DEADLINE

for the December 31st issue

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 31ST AT 5:00 PM

is the DEADLINE

for the January 7th issue

opinion

Riches that don't need money

In our house we are in full Christmas gear-up mode. Christmas lights are up, gifts are being bought and children's faces are lighting up as each day draws Christmas a little closer. Of all the seasons, Christmas is by far my favourite and has been since I was a child. The reason why I love Christmas so much, is because it's a time of the year we come together as family, laugh, smile, dream and enjoy each other. Money can buy many things in life but as the famous song reminds us money can't buy us happiness. Christmas is about sharing your life with those who love you and with those whom you love. Several nights ago, after dinner I sat down with one



of my boys, Joel, who is five years old. I looked him in the eyes and we exchanged a few interesting words: Me - "You know what Joel, Daddy is very rich." Joel - "No you're not Dad." Me - "Oh, but yes I am." Joel - "Mum, Dad's not rich is he?" Me - "Joel, I am the richest man in the world, as I have what money can't buy." Joel - "What's that Dad?"

Me - "You, Joel, and your brothers. You see son, you are worth more than anything in the world. You are priceless, so that means that Daddy is really rich." I don't think my son really understood, but if there is one thing I hope he grows to understand it is that his Mum and Dad love him always. One of Coldplay's songs 'Fix You' has a line that goes "When you get what you

want, but not what you need."

This Christmas remember that your children and your family may want gifts under the tree but what they NEED is you. This Christmas take some time to slow down and spend some quality time with those you love.

—Chris Lees, Project Coordinator for Aim for Success. Visit Aim for Success online at www.aimforsuccess.ca. Aim for Success, as part of the Mental Health Capacity Building Project works in partnership with the Wild Rose School Division, Alberta Health Services and Alberta Education - for a full list of all our project partners see www.aimforsuccess.ca/partners

Christmas is coming!

Does your family have a treasured tradition that makes Christmas that much more special? We want to know what it is and share it with your friends and neighbours. E-mail your family tradition or a favourite holiday recipe to courtney.whalen@sunmedia.ca.

Have a news tip?

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news

A night of festive fun at St. Anthony



Lesley Allan Western Review

Everyone was walking in a winter wonderland on Dec. 6, but luckily they didn't have to brave the frosty cold temperatures of last week as all the festive fun was part of St. Anthony School's annual Winter Wonderland Fair. With lots of raffle prizes as well as many vendors, the evening was the perfect opportunity to get some of that much needed Christmas shopping done, especially since there was lots of fun activities to distract the kids like games, clowns, face painting and of course everybody's favourite elf, Santa Claus.



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news

Ronald's Readers program a hit with children, players

Partnership with local business, hockey club and school focuses on making literacy fun

Paul Brian
Western Review

The Ronald's Readers program enjoyed a pancake breakfast Dec. 4 at McDonald's to celebrate their accomplishments of the past school term.

Evergreen Elementary students from Grade 2 to 6 participate in a unique Aim for Success program helped out by the local McDonald's that teams up a player from the Drayton Valley Thunder Hockey club and a student to work on reading together.

"We've had a fall session and we have a winter and spring session in January and February. Basically they come in once a week each Wednesday for seven weeks and spend about 40 minutes or so reading," explained Aim for Success

mentor Brandy Fredrickson, who helps run the program, noting that Thunder coach Mike Mueller has been very generous with allowing his players to come in and help out. "We play some games as well, like seven up," Fredrickson added.

The program was developed by Drayton Valley McDonald's owner Linda Mangnall. She had already successfully implemented it through her McDonald's in Whitecourt, and suggested it to Aim for Success in Drayton Valley.

"Literacy is a personal interest of mine and one of the benefits of being the owner of a business is you can support the things that you feel passionate about," Mangnall said. "Mentorship and reading are topics that I think are very important in every community."

Hayden O'Brien, in Grade 4 at Evergreen said he doesn't like reading very much, but he does like the program because he gets to hang out with his "Thunder buddy" Nathan Smith. Smith, who's in his third year helping out in the pro-

gram enjoys his time reading with youngsters like O'Brien.

"It's just good to have some experience mentoring kids," Smith said. Having started off with one student pal, Smith now has two, as another student's mentor was traded away from the Thunder.

"The players have been outstanding. The Drayton Valley Thunder team has been a great supporter. I think that having a hockey player to read with for these kids, they're kind of celebrities in their way," Mangnall said.

Grade 6 student Teli Calvert is Smith's second student friend and he's been having fun working with Smith.

"We've been working on 'Diary of a Wimpy Kid,' it's the third book," Calvert explained. "He [Smith] helped me with the Sea Monsters book too. It's like a graphic novel."

The program is geared to students who can use some extra help on their reading, who are referred to it by their teachers.

"The boys [Thunder]

are really, really good. The kids, they're super fun. And they're reliable too, which is no small thing to mention," Fredrickson said. "For them to be able to come every week the kids rely on the fact that they're making this connection with a hockey player, which is great."

Mickayla Jensen in Grade 5 is in her third year of the Ronald's Readers program and has been working with her mentor Adam Meghribi this year on a superhero comic book. She said her reading has improved and she enjoys taking turns reading with Meghribi.

Students were given certificates of accomplishment Dec. 4 at the McDonald's pancake breakfast by Aim for Success Co-ordinator Chris Lees and Fredrickson.

When it first started in Drayton Valley three years ago Ronald's Readers brought in volunteer mentors from H.W. Pickup Junior High, when Evergreen was located next to the junior high. They also brought in high school mentors from Frank Maddock High

School, but due to scheduling issues this also became unfeasible. The Thunder have been coming in to help out students for the past two years and it's been working out very well.

McDonald's provides healthy apple snacks and swag for the program as well as hosting its end-of-term pancake breakfasts.

"What's unique about the Drayton Valley program is that it's the Drayton Valley Thunder that are the mentors," outlined Mangnall.

"Here [in Whitecourt] it's other students, involving the Drayton Valley Thunder team and players has really been a unique and highly successful aspect of the Drayton Valley program. It's a program that we hope to continue for as long as kids need help with reading and I think that both the players and the readers get equal benefits from it. I think the mentors enjoy it just as much as the kids do. It's a really positive all-around program."

DRAYTON VALLEY & DISTRICT AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY
Annual General Meeting
Thursday December 19, 2013
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NOTICE OF APPROVED DEVELOPMENT PERMIT

The following Development Permit has been issued by the Brazeau County Development Authority:

PROPOSAL: Single Family Dwelling (1081 ft²) with Attached Garage (576 ft²) and Attached Deck (144 ft²). Variance granted from the attached garage to the front (south) yard setback from 10 m (33 ft.) to 7 m (23 ft.)

LEGAL DESC.: Lot 1 Block 5 Plan 122 1713 within NW10-49-7WSM

FILE: 13D-179

Written notice of an appeal for this permit, containing reasons for the appeal, and a \$250.00 appeal fee must be received by the Secretary of the Subdivision and Development Appeal Board, either by hand or registered mail, at the Offices of Brazeau County by 5:00 p.m., December 24, 2013.

For further information, please contact the Planning and Development Department at: 780-542-2667.



Paul Brian Western Review

Members of the Evergreen School Ronald's Readers program stand with their Drayton Valley Thunder buddies Dec. 4 after enjoying a pancake breakfast at McDonald's restaurant. The young readers all received certificates recognizing their achievements in the school literacy program.

news

FOOD FOR THE MIND



Lesley Allen Western Review

On Dec. 7 McDonald's in Drayton Valley was serving up more than just fries as they joined together with the Drayton Valley Municipal Library and gave out free mini books to all the town's young readers who came in for a bite to eat.

McQueen new Minister of Energy

Moves from Environment and Sustainable Resource Development

Western Review Staff

Drayton Valley/Devon MLA Diana McQueen starts this week with a new title in Premier Alison Redford's cabinet — Minister of Energy.

McQueen was moved to the portfolio as part of a cabinet shuffle announced by Redford on Dec. 6. McQueen moves to her new post from Environment and Sustainable Resource Development.

McQueen is no stranger to the Ministry of Energy, having spent time in the department as the Parliamentary Assistant to then Minister of Energy Ron Liepert prior to being named to Cabinet after her re-election in 2012.

McQueen's shift from Environment and Sustainable Resource Development is just one of several moves made by Redford on last Friday.

Redford said the announce-

ment shows a "strengthened ministerial team that will drive the next phase of the Building Alberta Plan."

"The next phase (will) focus on expanding our economy, driving innovation and working every day to create an even better quality of life for Albertans."

Dave Hancock has taken over the deputy premier post from Thomas Lukaszuk along with the Ministry of Innovation and Advanced Education.

Lukaszuk will now take on the newly-formed Ministry of Jobs, Skills, Training and Labour.

Robin Campbell will take over Environment and Sustainable Resource Development from McQueen and will also be the Government House leader.

Verlyn Olsen will remain the Minister of Agriculture and Rural Development, but he's been awarded the added responsibility of Deputy House Leader.

Wayne Drysdale and Ric McIver did a direct swap — Drysdale will become Minister of Transportation and McIver will now be the Minister of Infrastructure.

And despite tumultuous

years in finance, education and health, Doug Horner, Jeff Johnson and Fred Horne will remain at their respective posts.

Doug Griffiths is gone from Municipal Affairs and will move to Minister of Service Alberta, with Ken Hughes moving from Energy to become Minister of Municipal Affairs.

Jonathan Denis retains his post as Minister of Justice and Solicitor General and Deputy House Leader and Heather Klimchuk remains Minister of Culture.

Frank Oberle returns to provincial cabinet to become Minister of Aboriginal Relations and House Leader.

Manmeet Bhullar will shift to become Minister of Human Services and Richard Starke will remain in his post as Minister of Tourism, Parks and Recreation. Cal Dallas will also remain as Minister of International and Intergovernmental Relations.

The shake up adds the ministry of Jobs, Skills, Training and Labour, increasing the cabinet size to 19.

— With files from QMI Agency

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news

Santas Anonymous deadline approaching

Families need to contact organization by Dec. 13

Courtney Whalen
Western Review

Families worried about putting presents under and over the Christmas morning can still reach out for support from Santa Anonymous.

The local organization will be accepting names of

families to receive Christmas hampers until Dec. 13. For the past four decades Drayton Valley's Santas Anonymous has been delivering toys to area families at Christmas. The giving tradition is continuing this year under the direction of the Drayton Valley Lions Club and donations boxes are starting to fill up as residents drop off items for the campaign.

The donations are coming in very nicely," said Danny Thompson, who remains involved in the community initiative

started by his parents. "The Lions Club is doing a wonderful job."

Callis have also been coming in to Santas Anonymous for families looking for support. Last year more than 100 families had help making their Christmas a little merrier and organizers anticipate numbers may be similar this year.

To make sure hampers can be packed for all those who need them this year, families or someone who knows a family struggling this season need to contact Santas Anonymous by this Friday

to get on the list. People are asked to call 780-542-0706.

Donations of new toys, games, books, gift cards and other items will still be accepted, as will financial donations that are used to purchase additional items and groceries. Those items will be collected until November 21.

Distribution of the packed Christmas hampers will take place on Dec. 22. Anyone needing more information can contact the Santas Anonymous number or talk to Thompson.

LET'S ALL DO OUR PART! PLEASE RECYCLE.



news

Courtney Whalen
Western Review

COLLISION CLOSES HIGHWAY FOR SHORT TIME

A four-vehicle collision on Dec. 2 closed a portion of Hwy. 39 for a period of time as emergency services got the scene under control. Drayton Valley/Brazeau County Fire Services, RCMP and EMS personnel were called to Hwy. 39 in the area of Range Road 54 after two pickup trucks collided head on. Two semi trucks were subsequently involved in the collision as well.

"They were wearing their seatbelts. They were trying to avoid the collision," said Fire Chief Tom Thomson last week.

Although there were injuries as a result of the collision, none of them were life-threatening. The collision was one of four calls for service between Nov. 27 and Dec. 4.

An alarm call on Nov. 29 turned out to be false after fire personnel attended the rural residence in Brazeau County where the alarm call originated. When Drayton Valley/Brazeau County Fire Services arrived no one appeared to be home and there was no sign of fire.

That same day a small oil outdoor fire was reported to the fire services in the area of Glenbow Estates. When fire services went to investigate it was discovered the fire was

Drivers and passengers should make

a small campfire that had been started by a group of youth who were taking part in some outdoor recreation.

The final call of the week came in on Dec. 4. The fire services responded to a public service call after a woman called because she was stuck in her home. The woman could not open the doors in her mobile home to leave. Firefighters were able to pry open the doors, which appeared to have frozen.

SNOWMOBILE SAFETY

The recent accumulation of snow has inspired winter recreationists to get out on their snowmobiles. It's a popular winter pastime for many, but Drayton Valley/Brazeau County Fire Services Fire Chief Tom Thomson cautions that it's an activity that can have risks if riders aren't safety conscious and responsible.

"Even though it's a lot of fun there are a lot of hazards that go along with snowmobiling," he said. "Snowmobiling can result in serious injury or worse from collisions with objects such as trees, fences or other snowmobiles to being crushed or pinned by a machine that rolls over or falls during loading."

Thomson has a number of tips for snowmobilers to consider before firing up the sled and heading out.

Drivers and passengers should make

sure they're wearing the appropriate protective clothing, including CSA approved helmets and other equipment that will protect them from the elements such as goggles, gloves and boots.

When it comes to drivers and passengers Thomson said it's recommended that no one under the age of 16 operate a snowmobile on their own. And, because of the strength and stamina it takes to be a passenger, it's recommended that no one under the age of six should come along for the ride.

One of the most important things parents and other adults can do when snowmobiling is model safe and responsible riding for children and youth.

That includes being cautious when loading and unloading the machine, taking precautions to check weather and trail conditions and never venturing onto ice that hasn't been checked.

In the name of safety and injury prevention it's also a good idea to forgo towing toboggans, tires or tubes behind snowmobiles, added Thomson.

While there are plenty of opportunities for snowmobiling locally, many also like to venture to

higher altitudes with their sleds. Along with the standard safety precautions there are some extra things that should be considered before heading into the mountains.

Before heading out riders should consider taking an avalanche awareness course that will equip them with knowledge on what to look for to identify avalanche risks as well as how to respond if they are caught in an avalanche. Riders should also make sure to check the weather and avalanche reports before heading onto the mountain to reduce the risk of being caught or stranded by weather.

Depuy Fire Chief Murray Galavan said snowmobilers should know where they're going before heading out and be sure to let someone else know the area they expect to cover. It's advised to stay within identified boundaries to lessen the risk when out riding.

Be prepared by carrying items like a shovel, probe and beacon as well as food and water, extra fuel and even a GPS unit. It's also a good idea to consider bringing along a signalling device such as a pen flare and something that can be used to start a fire

if riders get stranded. Galavan said it's also worth looking into some of the other commercially available products that can be used to aid riders in the event they caught in an avalanche, including avalanche airbags.

With a snowmobile season kicking into gear Thomson also wants to remind enthusiasts that snowmobiling is not permitted in town or along roadways.



Brazeau County council briefs

Laurel Allan
Western Review

TAX RECOVERY

Council passed a motion to set Feb. 20, 2014 as the date for the Tax Recovery Auction starting at 9 a.m., with alternate dates of Feb. 27 or Mar. 6. Council also approved the conditions of sale and values set out by the Municipal Government Act. The tax recovery auctions allows the municipality to auction off property in arrears with taxes.

SUSTAINABILITY CONFERENCE

Wanda Compton, manager of economic development and communication, presented council with a request made by the Town of Drayton Valley to co-host the upcoming Pathways to Sustainability Conference taking place May 14 to 16. As a host partner, Brazeau County was asked to provide a sponsorship of \$10,000, which could include a combination of \$5,000 cash and an additional \$5,000 in-kind. Compton, who highlighted that it's a beneficial conference to bring together community leaders, sustainability champions and innovators in waste, water and energy, said that it would be a better fit in the future when sustainability has a bigger presence in the area.

Council CAO Marco Schoeninger advised council that because the conference falls under the Joint Economic Development Plan it would be best to bring it to the Dec. 9 joint council meeting for discussion. Council passed a motion to discuss the topic at the next joint council meeting.

SPECIAL OLYMPICS

Council passed a motion to provide a \$500 donation to the Drayton Valley Special Olympics. Division 2 Councillor Rita Molt excused herself from the discussion due to pecuniary interest.

CONTRACT AWARDED

Council awarded a contract to build a cold storage building to Castle Rock Contracting Ltd. in the amount of \$424,153.

SEARCH AND RESCUE

Don Drebert and Rob Landers presented information to council regarding Brazeau Regional Search and Rescue. Sharing with councillors the work that the volunteer-based group has done over the years, Drebert and Landers made a request for council to assist them to find housing and storage, including office and training space and covered storage for vehicles and equipment. Citing how important their work is council passed a motion to approve the dedication of one office space, access to a training room within the council building and that administration research outdoor storage for two trailers.

SNOW REMOVAL

The council received a request from the Town of Drayton Valley to undertake snowplowing on an unnamed road specifically the Ring Road area. Brazeau County operators already clear the portion of the road owned by the county. The proposed agreement would just see them continue on through to the town's portion, clearing it as well. Council passed a motion to provide snow removal service on a portion of RR 73 (Ring Road) for the Town of Drayton Valley and to enter into a service agreement for cost recovery.

AREA STRUCTURE PLAN

Council passed a motion in consideration of a policy addition to the Municipal Development Plan (MDP) that would require applicants proposing to re-district large pieces of land that do not fit within the current MDP future land use map to produce an area structure plan to support the application.

DIVISIONAL MEETINGS

The annual Divisional Meetings are scheduled for March 2014. Administration will be researching the available dates at preferred community halls and when chosen, dates will be announced.

2014 BUDGET

Council wrapped up budget discussions and passed a motion to approve the 2014

Annual Budget. For more information turn to pg. 2.

MEETINGS

The next regular council meetings will be held Dec. 17 and Jan. 7. A special council meeting is scheduled for Jan. 14, 2014 for further discussion on proposed changes to the Land Use bylaw.

HOLIDAY HOURS

The Brazeau County office will be closed for the Christmas break Dec. 25, 26 and 27. The office will remain open full days on Dec. 24 and 31.

With files from Brazeau County

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www.brazeau.ab.ca

NOTICE OF APPROVED DEVELOPMENT PERMIT

The following Development Permit has been issued by the Brazeau County Development Authority:

PROPOSAL: Existing manufactured home (6.08 m x 23.25 m). Variance granted from the existing manufactured home to the side [east] yard setback from 6 m (20 ft.) to 5.91 m (19.39 ft.).

LEGAL DESC.: Lot 3 Block 1 Plan 072 7901 within SW 17-50-6-W5M

FILE: 13D-186

Written notice of an appeal for this permit, containing reasons for the appeal, and a \$250.00 appeal fee must be received by the Secretary of the Subdivision and Development Appeal Board, either by hand or registered mail, at the Offices of Brazeau County by 5:00 p.m., December 24, 2013.

For further information, please contact the Planning and Development Department at: 780-542-2667.

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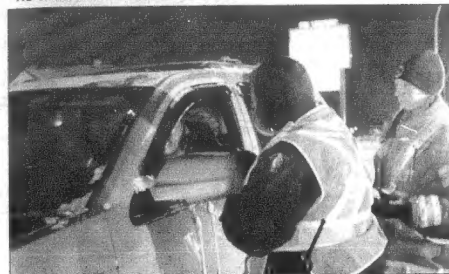
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news

'TIS THE SEASON TO THINK SAFETY



Lesley Allan Western Review

Despite the frigid temperatures on Dec. 5 members of local emergency services hit the streets to remind people to keep safe and drive sober this holiday season as part of their annual Candy Cane Checkstop. The yearly holiday-based initiative not only gives emergency services the opportunity to share information and remind people why it's important not to drink and drive, but also lets them satisfy one motorist's sweet tooth as they hand out the festive candy that gives the program its name.



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The Drayton Valley Western Review

Sports

Editor Courtney Whalen
780-542-7574 x 24 courtney.whelen@sunmedia.ca

Wildcats locked out of win by Warriors



Lonley Allan Western Review

The Drayton Valley Wildcats only had one opponent last weekend as they welcomed the Westlock Warriors for a high energy game at the Omplex on Dec. 6. Last time the two teams met up things didn't go as well for Drayton Valley as the Warriors took a substantial lead beating them 6-2. The Wildcats played a highly physical game and were able to keep things tight. Unfortunately a win just wasn't in the cards for the local team and Westlock came out on top with a 5-4 win. Currently the Wildcats sit first in the NCHL's south division with seven wins and three losses.

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sports

Bidding has started for a chance to play with NHL alum in February

Spots open to play against NHL alumni in game coming up on Feb. 14

Paul Brian
Western Review

If you want a chance to play hockey against the very best, it's coming up.

The National Hockey League (NHL) Legends hockey team, putting a Drayton Valley team against a team of top-line NHL alumni takes place Feb. 14, 2014.

Hockey tickets will also be available at all Drayton Valley Thunder home games to enter for a chance to be selected for the Drayton Valley team. Ticket prices are \$25 each, three for \$90 or six for \$160.

"People have the opportunity to bid for a play spot for Christmas for your significant other, or it could be gifted for Valentine's Day," suggested Kerry Doran, recreation activity co-ordinator for the Town of Drayton Valley. "The NHL Legends have challenged the town of Drayton Valley. So we need our significant players or any players who want to play against these guys in come down."

The event will be a fundraiser for the town's recreation programming such as their summer activity programs, as well as

for the Drayton Valley Thunder. "This is all about having fun, getting the opportunity to play against the legends, the NHL players of yesteryear."

Team members will get the chance to play against top-notch NHL alumni including Chris Nilan, Marty McSorley and Steve Shutt. They'll also face a wall between the points with Ray Nolan and Todd Blum paying for the NHL Legends.

Shutt played for the Montreal Canadiens for five of their Stanley Cup victories in 1973, 1976 and 1977-79 and recalled the camaraderie that defined the close knit squad.

"We had a pretty good team. When there are 12 or 13 of us that went into the Hockey Hall of Fame a lot of our practices were harder than our games."

Shutt said. "It might've been the last as far as a real team, with everybody liked each other and we were not teammates. Money was involved but not really to the extent that it is in today's game."

Finally, we kept the core of that team together for four of those cups and you just couldn't do that in today's game. To try and keep the whole of your team together is extremely difficult right now."

Left-winger Shutt was part of the Canadiens' top line with Jacques Lemieux and Guy Lafleur. The Canadiens still hold the last regular season record in league history, having only eight losses in an 80-game schedule.

Shutt held the league record for left wingers, with 60 goals until the 1992-93 season when Luc Robitaille netted 63. That record was later topped by Alexander Ovechkin who racked up 66 goals in the 2007-08 season.

Getting back on the ice with fellow alum for the legends tour is a little less intense.

"We meet with the old guys and it's certainly not the pressure of winning anyone, but we just get out there and have a good time, meet with the fans," Shutt said. "We'll run into some better teams, but we always bring a couple of young guys with us, so if they have to step up they can," he added with a laugh.

New Drayton Valley will get a chance to take up Shutt's challenge.

Bidding for spots on the team will be done in a closed bid system with the highest bid being picked in January for each available position. Entries can be made at the Olympics, Thunder office, Drayton Valley Civic Centre and www.dravtonvalley.ca.

There are also several spots available to play on the NHL Alumni team with the lowest being assistant coach starting at \$500 at the same locations.

"The spots are being nabbed up, so make sure that you get your registration set," Doran said.

The official rosters for both teams will be announced in January.

Tickets for fans attending the game will be \$25 for adults

and \$15 for students. VIP preferred seating will also be available and includes a meet-and-greet with the NHL alumni team after the game. VIP tickets go for \$100. Tickets include a team photograph, a commemorative jersey, a meet-and-greet with the NHL alumni after the game and inclusion in the

collectible game program with player statistics.

"It's a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity. It doesn't matter if you're a great player or just a casual recreational player," Doran said. "It's an opportunity to hang out, have a fun game and maybe meet and greet with some legends."

Shutt also encouraged Drayton Valley to come out and see their best.

"It's a fun game," he said. "We just want to make sure that everybody has a good time, the fans have a good time, and that's how we tout around. Everybody come on out and have a good time."

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ROWS

Heal us, strengthen us and renew us



Lesley Allan Western Review

On Dec. 6, Canadians across the nation took the time to recognize the National Day of Remembrance and Action on Violence Against Women in honour of all those who have been affected by human brutality. Here in Drayton Valley members of the public gathered at Northwest College for a ceremony held by the Perimeter Crisis Connection Society and paid their respects to those who inspired the day, 14 women killed in 1989 at École Polytechnique de Montréal.

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Radowits places 39th at nationals

Radowits from pg. 21

Radowits has missed several times and also spilled early on in the race, a practice where a runner's idea has opponents' share with the rest of the shoes. Radowits ran through the pain, however, overtook a group of runners in the last several hundred metres.

"He came around on the last 200 metres he was with a pack of about four or five kids and he put a kick on it and passed that pack," McNeill recalled. "Running at that level there's a lot of strategy that goes on. There's the fitness component, but there's also strategy when to push, when to hold back."

His 39th place finish was actually a great success and surpassed what anyone expected from a first-time runner.

"A lot of the coaches that I talked to said 'You know this is Royden's first time, he's 16, he's the youngest. He breaks the top 100, top 75 he'll be really fortunate, really lucky.' We had high hopes just knowing what he's capable of running," McNeill said. "We're very pleased. Thirty-ninth overall is really good. And his time? You know he's only 30

seconds away from the top 20, which on an eight-kilometre race 30 seconds may seem like a lot but on an eight-kilometre race it's less than four seconds a kilometre. That's nothing, really. On any given day you can increase your pace by four, five, six seconds. He's right within striking distance."

McNeill noted that going over the nationals race results for the past few years also showed how runners who came around 30th their first year managed to sometimes move into the top 20 in their second year and the top five by their third and final year in junior men's.

"It was good to learn how to run the race," Radowits said, adding he ran around a 3:20 kilometre in the race. "That's why I went down, just to get experience in the race and see how people are running."

As for the future, it's all about better and faster, according to Radowits.

"It was an excellent experience to go down and race with them," Radowits said. "I've just got to keep training harder, keep pushing the pace and trying to get up there to that level of competition."

NEWS

A cuppa awareness

Rotary Club goes highbrow for Rotary House project

Courtney Whalen
Western Review

The Drayton Valley Rotary Club is taking a highbrow approach to its fundraising efforts. On Nov. 28, the club hosted a high tea event to raise funds and awareness for Rotary House.

The project is already well underway at the former H.W. Pockip industrial arts building which is being converted into a community project with a goal of being home to a number of local community support agencies. The building is being converted into a building with not only make it easier for community members to access the resources and programming they want, but also the organizations to better collaborate and share resources.

As the service club moves into the final push to complete its fundraising the committee wanted to reach out to women in the community and share with them why the Rotary Club believes Rotary House is an important addition to the area. Fundraising efforts have been successful to this point, especially with a \$250,000 contribution from the Luber family, but the high tea brought in another demographic.

"To reach out to the natures of our communities and say this is something we think you need to be aware of," said Mary Drader, who sits on the Rotary House committee.

The Rotary House committee welcomed 36 ladies, along with their hosts and fascinations, to the Oak Room at the Lakeview Inn and Suites for an afternoon of tea, finger foods and information sharing.

"Now we have 36 more women in the community who know what Rotary House is," said Mary Drader.

Volunteers served those present and the event was very well received, she noted. There was even a suggestion that the club make the high tea an annual event.

Organizers were happy with

the response and thankful for the support of those who gave up their time to make the event run smoothly.

The Rotary House committee and club as a whole believe the efforts will be more than worth it once Rotary House opens in the spring of next year.

The current demolition work is completed and crews will be working throughout the winter to get the building ready for its first tenants next year, said Terry Drader. It has taken quite a bit of organization and agencies to get to this point, from securing the building from Wild Rose School Division to working with community agencies to find tenants and everything in between. It's kept the committee busy, meeting frequently and with plenty of e-mail communication in between.

Terry Drader said once it opens the building will be at full occupancy with agencies although some will have different move in dates depending on agreements they have in their current locations. With the goal of bringing agencies with complementary mandates together in one location, the committee is already seeing how those agencies are embracing the concept. Terry Drader said the future tenants have already starting meeting with each other to look at how they can maximize and share resources and programming.

"That's the really exciting thing," he said. Many communities are judged on how they treat their most vulnerable and struggling residents. The Draders said they believe Drayton Valley is already "known for its caring" and that Rotary House will just be the latest piece in that larger puzzle. Although still a relatively new concept, the idea behind projects like Rotary House and those it was modeled after, is pretty basic.

"The collaboration there between the agencies and them being able to help their clients even better," said Mary Drader.

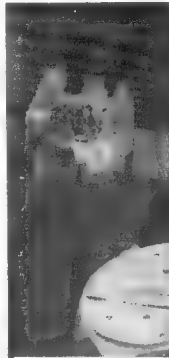
Once completed the Rotary Club of Drayton Valley will turn ownership and operation of Rotary House over to an independent corporation. The project and its projected impact on the community is something that is garnering some notice



The Drayton Valley Rotary Club served up some hot tea and information at a well-received event on Nov. 28 where they hosted 36 local residents to afternoon tea.

from other clubs as well. "It is something a lot of the other Rotary Clubs are now taking a look at," said Mary Drader.

For more information about the Drayton Valley Rotary Club and Rotary House project go online to <http://www.clubrunner.ca/Portal/Home.asp?cid=446>



Volunteer and Rotarian Ray Labourene gets ready to serve tea to members of the community at the Drayton Valley Rotary Club building project.

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NEWS

Christmas memorial service a chance to remember

Remember those who can't bear this holiday season

Paul Brand
Western Review

Christmas and the holidays are a time of joy and togetherness, but they can also be a hard time for those who have lost loved ones.

The Drayton Valley Memorial Association will be holding its annual Christmas memorial service Thursday, Dec. 12 from 7 to 8 p.m. at the All Saints Anglican Church to offer a place for those who have lost loved ones to come together and remember them during the busy holiday season.

"Different ministers do different things. One will be a speaker, one will share some Scripture and also reading, we'll sing some carols," outlined Pastor Doug Hale of Valley Worship Assembly who will be helping lead the service. "It's open to the whole community... We're there to bring some comfort and remind people that the

memory they have of their loved one can be a tremendous source of blessing and hope, even in this difficult time of year."

The service will be led by the Drayton Valley Ministerial Association, a group of ministers from Drayton Valley.

Those attending are encouraged to bring a photograph of their loved one, which they can place at the front on a memorial table and light a candle beside. Bringing a friend for support is also encouraged.

"You get that Christmas song that goes 'It's the most wonderful time of the year,' but for many people who have lost a loved one, they're so close to them that the sorrow is still there, they're still battling with that and their tremendous loss," Hale said. "We're there to remind them that they have their wonderful memory, they have friends around them, they have people in the community who really care and we're here to help you."

Attendance at the memorial service has grown each year. In its first years a few years ago only 10 to 15 attended, whereas last year around 70 people came.

"People need to come somewhere they can see 'I'm not alone, there are other

people going through this at the same time," Hale said. "We're here tonight paying honour and respect to those that you loved so deeply. There are a myriad of memories that go through your heart."

The service brings people from all over the community, giving them a chance to take time out of the hectic holiday shopping and preparations for a quiet moment to remember those they love who are no longer with them.

"We have people there that have lost people, maybe even a child. They come back every year now, because they actually look for it," Hale said. "Many times at the close of our time together they just want to talk."

Hale himself is not only a leader of the service, but also a participant in it. Last year he brought a photograph of his sister who died last year to remember her.

"This is a big thing in my heart, because I know what it's like," Hale said. "I've lost my wife, I've lost my mom and dad, I've lost my sister and I'm just so pleased to know that people really care

enough to put something like this on that anybody can come to. It doesn't matter who you are. It's not for 'church people' it's for anybody in the community just to let them know they are being remembered."

For more information on the Christmas Candlelight Memorial Service call Pastor Hale at 780-898-5210

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NorQuest improves course availability

Lesley Miller
Western Review

Following a successful pilot program in September, NorQuest College will continue to offer an on-demand program not just here in Drayton Valley, but at several of their campuses.

"Administrative Professional is in demand in many of our regional communities, so the expanded programming is going to be delivered at all five of our regional campuses. So students can stay close to home to get the training they need," explains Karen Link, senior manager of regional stewardship for NorQuest College.

Preparing students for office settings, the Administrative Professional Program (APP) teaches essential and in-demand office skills, such as basic accounting, software applications, business communication, and event management.

Applied as a fast-track program APP has students for 16 weeks, plus four weeks of placement, both of which will see students commit to full-time hours.

One of the things that makes NorQuest unique is its ability to offer programming like this to its remote campuses.

"NorQuest College has extensive experience in hybrid delivery, so what we're able to do is to perform a class with students from a variety of communities that can join together virtually," explains Link. "So instead of having to recruit 20 students in a community, which is almost impossible, we've created a hybrid delivery so that we can have four from one, five from another, six from a third and together we make what we call a cohort, or a class of students."

Taking advantage of this technology, NorQuest announced on Nov. 28 that they will be able to offer 10 new courses to regional learners in 2014. The courses will all under Strategic Social Media for

Organizations and Project Assistant, but all will be dedicated to offering students and communities what is needed.

"At NorQuest we're really committed to providing programs that are relevant and necessary to meet the needs of our local economies," shares Link. "So the graduates from NorQuest programming can really be assured that their training has been identified as a real need in their community, and that the communities are receiving the labour that they need."

For more information about the APP, or all programming offered through NorQuest College, visit www.norquest.ca, or call (780) 542-5400.

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NEWS

Drayton Valley doing well in doctor recruitment, retention

Committee continues to work on initiatives

Paul Thompson

Doctors like working in Drayton Valley.

That's the message from Alberta Health Services. At Drayton Valley, it's a reality. At a recent meeting of the town's health services committee, it was clear that it's an above average town.

That's where the Drayton Valley Health Services and Retirement Committee (PPRC) is working. The group of community members, including some retired physicians, are working to make sure the town's health services are up to the task. They're also helping to get the doctors' needs and supports them in any way possible.

"The doctors that we've recruited to work in the town are still here. They're happy," said PPRC chair, Dr. Peter Laro. "We're at a good point right now. We usually take our information in terms of what we need from our clinics. We work closely with them and so far the clinics have adequate amount of doctors to function."

PPRC has mentioned doctors this support and has been working on bringing several new doctors to the town in the coming months to bring things to an

even more comfortable level.

Some recruits respond directly to when an area is placed by the committee, while others come to via the Alberta Health Services Action Plan (RAP).

Retention levels have been excellent. "The committee does a very good job of making sure that our doctors feel safe and appreciated. And then the community, we'll have a really good job of being really welcoming," Laro said.

New doctors have felt really supported not just by the committee but by lots of different businesses and establishments in the beginning that help them with getting all set up.

In a recent example the PPRC hosted an appreciation dinner for doctors and their families Nov. 26 at the Grapevine Restaurant in Drayton Valley.

"We invited all of the physicians and their families," Laro said. "We like to be able to show the appreciation we have for the physicians that we have."

As for bringing in the new doctors in the coming months, Laro stated it will be good to get them onboard, though acknowledging that some rural communities have a far greater need for more doctors than Drayton Valley.

Prospective new physicians are given a tour of the community, clinics and/or hospital by a PPRC subcommittee, who show the doctors the way local health works in Drayton Valley.

Financial support from the Town of Drayton Valley given last year is still up-

standing for the PPRC's funding.

"When we initially began we did receive private donations from members of the community and then we also have funding from the town and

county," Laro outlined, noting that they have also applied for a provincial grant. "We're having really good reception with the town and support we're getting from the community and we've had a

great time working with our physicians in order to do this."

PPRC will be presenting its annual report to the town and Brantford County coming up this month.

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ROTARY AWARDS SCHOLARSHIPS



Phil Chatters of the Rotary Club of Drayton Valley presented Daniel Laford, from Flett's with a \$500 Rotary Scholarship for his achievements in education during last month.

The Rotary Club of Drayton Valley also awarded two other scholarships to Sydney Computer for cosmetology, and Nela Groland for construction technology.

CHRISTMAS

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Western Review

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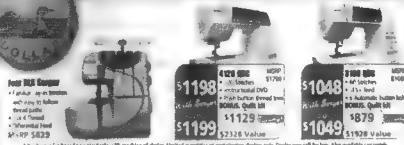
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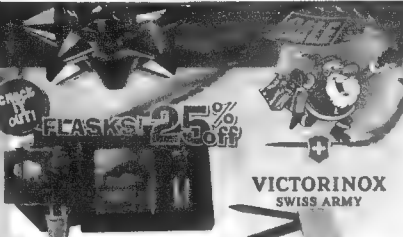


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Wednesday, December 18 at 5:00 pm
Published Tuesday, December 24, 2013

VICKI MCCABE
Phone: 780-542-7574 Ext. 28
vicki.mccabe@sunmedia.ca

school notebook

BRITTON HIGH SCHOOL
 • In gratitude to our senior hostesses, tasks that had to be done that week were assigned to the 11th and 12th graders.

We have many fun activities planned this month including three dress-up days: Dec. 12 (Spooky), Dec. 13 (Christmas), Dec. 14 (Tacky Sweaters), Dec. 18 (Gingerbread), Dec. 19 (Wednesday). In addition to those days, we will have secret Santa, cookie decorating, candy grams and much more!

Also, our drama club presents their two Christmas-themed plays to the public on Dec. 15 at Britton High School, 2 p.m. Join us for dessert and cheer!

H.W. PICKUP

Term II was booked to begin last Monday, but inclement weather prevented that "fresh" start to the month. With our winter weather as unpredictable as it has been these past weeks, staff is encouraging those students who attend school when buses aren't running, to bring a lunch. The serveries do not operate on these days.

Wednesday, then, kicked off Term II. Students, by now, are registered in their correct options, and it is business as usual.

Staff thanks all those parents who braved the conditions and attended parent/teacher interviews last Tuesday and Thursday night.

Our monthly newsletter will now be available only at the office in paper form; parents can view our newsletter at www.wnd.ca/hwpickup and click on hwpickupandnewsletters.

Mrs. Brenda Sauter has announced that the next PAC meeting will occur Jan. 15 at 7 p.m. in the library. Parent council is still in need of a casual co-ordinator, so, parents, please contact the office or contact Mrs. Sauter if you are willing to have your name stand for this position!

Basketball practices continue with juniors Wednesday/ Friday 3:30 - 5 p.m. gym time; seniors Tuesday/ Thursday 3:30 - 5 p.m. gym time. Forms should be going home to explain fees, transportation and game schedule.

Mrs. Osterberg is starting an archery clinic at HW Pickup Mondays from 3:30 - 4:30. Students and parents are invited to train! Please contact Mrs. Osterberg at the school.

A reminder that Dec. 12, is our first Christmas Festival at HW Pickup. Students are rehearsing a program of music and drama; art work will be on display, and cookies will be provided for the foodie classes. We will also be running videos showcasing our movie making operation. Doors open at 7 p.m. sharp! Everyone welcome!

Dec. 20 is our last day of classes before Christmas break. Students will be called to the gym for a morning general assembly, a guest speaker, and then the Musical. Christmas dinner complete with video screens, a

DI and a light show will commence! Student's return to classes Jan. 6 for Day 1.

HOLY TRINITY ACADEMY
 December promises to be a busy and exciting month at Holy Trinity Academy. With the season of Advent upon us, staff and students are joining together each morning at 8:30 a.m. in the chapel for prayer. We hope that your families are enjoying the advent prayers being mailed home.

Thank you to Father Gary for leading us to our Advent celebration on Dec. 5. Thank you also to the students and staff who participated in the readings at our celebration.

Thank you also to our local Tim Hortons who is continuing to provide us with breakfast every other week.

Congratulations to our senior boys' basketball team who played and represented our school well at a tournament in Dayland last weekend. Thank you to all of the parents who braved the snow and cold to cheer our boys on. Go Tiger Hawks!

The senior girls' basketball team will be participating in a tournament starting on Dec. 13 in Fort Saskatchewan, at the Henry Galt.

Parents are encouraged to come for the school council meeting to be held Friday, Dec. 10 at 7 p.m. at the school.

No Christmas season would be complete without an Ugly Christmas Sweater Day. Join in the fun and fashion on Dec. 19 by wearing your ugly Christmas sweater. There is still time for everyone to get their very own.

In addition to Ugly Christmas Sweater Day, the students' union is sponsoring an opportunity for every one to get their Christmas groove on with an afternoon Christmas Dance on Dec. 20 from 1:45 to 3:15 p.m.

No Christmas season would be complete without a tree decorating contest. Trees will be provided and each grade will provide their own ornaments to decorate their tree. Hot chocolate and doughnuts will be given to the winning grade. Start finding those decorations now as decorating will start on Dec. 11.

Staff and students are encouraged to bring in non-perishable food items, especially cans of food, to build our Christmas Food Tree. A tree will be made using food items brought in and will then be donated to our local food bank. Items will be accepted until Dec. 18. Please bring them in!

Last day of classes for Holy Trinity Academy will be Dec. 20. Classes will resume after the Christmas break on Jan. 6.

Please check the school website for the January final exam schedule. It is never too early to start reviewing. Europe trip 2015 is taking registrations now! All interested travelers should sign up early to avoid disappointment. Please contact Ms. Dupont at the school for more information.

AURORA

The Grade 4 classes had perfect conditions for their snowmobile outing to the Highway Trails last Friday. This was an ideal winter sport for the Drayton Valley area and a valuable outdoor learning experience for the students.

The family movie night on Nov. 29 was a lot of fun with more than 100 children and parents snowed out across the gym floor on mats and pillows with bowls of popcorn. Thanks to the PAC for organizing the event and thanks to all the families for supporting this fundraiser.

On Tuesday Ms. Barry and the choir will be visiting the hospital and Seniority House to sing Christmas carols with the patients and the elderly. We celebrate this occasion by dressing in our Christmas finest, which is open to interpretation of course. That could mean everything from formal gowns and suits to your best Christmas sweaters, tie, toque, flashing Santa hat or red velvet antlers.

We would like to encourage all Eldorado community members to come by the school and have a look at our many colourful Christmas and winter projects that adorn our hallways. As well, you can see what's happening at our school by checking in to our Facebook page: [facebook.com/Souriswindschool](https://www.facebook.com/Souriswindschool).

What's Going On?
 Dec. 12 - Schoolwide turkey dinner - no hot lunch program this day.
 Dec. 13 - In addition to Ugly Christmas Sweater Day, the students' union is sponsoring an opportunity for every one to get their Christmas groove on with an afternoon Christmas Dance on Dec. 20 from 1:45 to 3:15 p.m.

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ent/teacher interviews on Monday night. We held all of our interviews on Wednesday instead. Thank you to all who made the effort to attend. We had originally scheduled for our stage to be set up on the Dec. 9, but were able to get it done on Dec. 9. Thank you very much, to all who came to help.

On Dec. 5 we had our monthly assembly where we gave a visit from Spirit and honored those students who displayed the virtue of perseverance. Congratulations to them. So it was a quiet week but very productive one.

This Thursday is the final meeting of the Parent Council and many volunteers treat us to a turkey dinner with all the trimmings. We celebrate this occasion by dressing in our Christmas finest, which is open to interpretation of course. That could mean everything from formal gowns and suits to your best Christmas sweaters, tie, toque, flashing Santa hat or red velvet antlers.

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news

CITY LOOKS AT TELLING VISITORS WHERE TO GO

Leduc Representative
 The City of Leduc is exploring a wayfinding system, which would help residents and visitors better navigate the city.

"I call wayfinding the art and science of efficiently moving people, that is, motorists and pedestrians, through an urban environment using consistent visual cues. That could be signs but it could be colours, it could be symbols, it could be sound," said Leduc Mayor Ken Burr.

Regular visitors to hotels on the outskirts of the city often don't know the downtown, Bedford Lake, or multiway system either, he said.

"Few visitors actually know about the multiway because we don't have any signs pointing to the multiway," said Burr.

There's signs on the multiway where you're on it, but there's no signs pointing to it from other parts of the city, such as the hotel sector, for example.

According to Burr, there is a close relationship between the Parks and Open Spaces and Trails Master Plan and the City.

"A sophisticated wayfinding program is increasingly a right of passage from a town to a city, especially for fast-growing municipalities," said Burr, who listed Edmonton, Calgary, Banff and Cochrane as examples of successful wayfinding systems.

According to Burr, Leduc's current signage is incomplete and inconsistent. There are no signs for downtown or Highway 2 and some signs refer to the Leduc Recreation Centre by that name, while others call it the Black Gold Centre.

Existing signs are also at different heights and in different styles and colours throughout the community, said Burr.

According to Alberta Transportation, 50,000 vehicles travelled through Leduc on Highway 2 every day in 2012.

Combined with traffic from the airport and

other routes through the city, about 50 million people pass through Leduc in a year, said Burr.

In order for the city to maximize its economic potential, these passers through need to know what services are available and how to find them, he said.

"Few visitors actually know about the multiway because we don't have any signs pointing to the multiway," said Burr.

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According to Alberta Transportation, 50,000 vehicles travelled through Leduc on Highway 2 every day in 2012.

Combined with traffic from the airport and

Province in print

Stories gathered from Alberta's weekly newspapers

the final flight out of the City Centre Airport.

However, freezing rain forced them to turn back. Accidentally securing Blower's plane in aviation history.

Even Blower's historic flight almost didn't happen, as the same freezing rain blanketed his plane. "The plane got covered in ice - covered, not flyable," said Blower.

The bare bones City Centre Airport, already prepared for closure, had no de-icing equipment left on site, so Blower along with the crew members and a group flew aviators who had gathered to reminisce and pay tribute to the airport, rolled up their sleeves and de-iced the plane the old-fashioned way.

Running a hose from a janitor's closet in the hangar, they sprayed down the plane with warm water, drying it by hand with squeegees.

Banding together, the crew got the plane back in the air in less than half an hour for Blower's last flight out of the airport that had served as a second home to the aviator.

"I know that all three of us were emotional on our final flight," said Blower. "I know that my voice broke up a bit when requesting our final take-off clearance from the tower controllers. A tougher man may excuse that as radio static, but the truth is most human."

Blower shared the final flight with Mark Dubrule and Leon Gerstie, who also learned to fly over 35 years ago in Air Cadets together, their pilots licenses all only a few days apart.

"It seemed like the right crew in that plane, and the right bunch of guys," Blower said.

Blower believes there was an element of fate at work during that final flight, as the same camaraderie among aviators and indomitable spirit to overcome seemingly insurmountable obstacles that got him off the ground is the same spirit that saw Blower's final

grow from a flat place for bush pilots to land into an internationally renowned site in aviation history.

"That's how that airport was born, that's what the spirit brought to the city, and we got to visit that again on the final day," Blower said.

For both Blower and for Tom Hinderks, executive director of the Alberta Aviation Museum, the last flight before the City Centre Airport was shattered for good was bittersweet.

"It's the end of an era, it's the end of an important piece of history," said Hinderks, "I hope they're inspired to dig into their own history, we got to visit that again on the final day," Blower said.

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see a large turnout through out the week, hoping it would renew interest in Edmonton's illustrious aviation history.

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port's control tower for permanent display in the Alberta Aviation Museum.

While the living aviation history of Blower's final flight is done, Blower hopes the City of Edmonton will pay respect to the site that solidified Edmonton's place on the world stage.

"I truly, I hope that the city, when it does the development, does pay the respect to that history ground that it does, and that we don't forget," said Blower.

see PIP on pg. 39

NOTICE OF APPROVED DEVELOPMENT PERMITS

Please be advised that the development permits, as listed below, have been approved by the Town of Drayton Valley Planning Committee on November 28, 2013.

DV15-150 180-50 Street
 22-General Commercial District
 Caribou Park Facility
 issued (with conditions), November 28, 2013

DV13-188 5030 39 Street
 P14-Use District, Residential District
 As Built Drive
 issued (with conditions) November 29, 2013

APPEAL HEARING SCHEDULE OF THE DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

An appeal may be made to the Subdivision and Development Appeal Board by any persons claiming to be affected by the aforementioned decisions. Written submissions stating grounds for appeal plus required fees must be received no later than 14 days after the date of Newspaper Publication.

The Town of Drayton Valley
 Attention Jennifer Martin Development Coordinator
 Box 6837, 5120-22nd Street
 Drayton Valley, Alberta T7A 1A1
 Phone 514-2200 Fax 542-8753
 E-mail admin@draytonvalley.ca

CORRECTION NOTICE

The Jeep Sales Event ad that appeared in this newspaper during the week of November 25, 2013 incorrectly stated that the 2014 Jeep Grand Cherokee SRT with option equipment shown had a price of \$48,315. The correct price for the 2014 Jeep Grand Cherokee SRT with optional equipment shown is \$64,690. We are sorry for any inconvenience this error may have caused.

merry christmas

Home for the holidays: how to do it in style

Make your home a well come and festive place to be this Christmas

News Canada

The holidays are about remembering, cherishing and being festive, says Sally Morse, the director of creative services for window treatments at sales later Hunter Douglas.

Tradition plays a part in Sally's holiday decorating, as it does in homes across Canada but always fun to reinvent and come up with creative new ideas. There isn't a room in her home she says that isn't touched by the holidays during the season.

Sally's design motto? "Less is less and more is more," she emphasizes, and that may be your motto as well once you've read her tips.

Themed trees To complement the main tree in the living room, which she decorates in white, gold and silver (her

favourite holiday colour scheme), Sally is an aficionado of themed trees in unusual places. In the living room, she will put a small tree on a silhouette and hang mismatched locks, knives and spoons on it with string ribbons or raffia in the kitchen, she'll tie cookie cutters with coloured raffia ribbons onto the tree. The bedroom will have a tree with artificial flowers, lace, tassels and more. Always watch the guest bathroom's tree will suit simple.

Themedate soap and hand lotion ready to use. The family room is for the kids' "memory tree," which is decorated with ornaments that the children have made over the years.

Personalized garlands Real or faux, a garland is never just a garland in Sally's house. She always personalizes them. At the top of the swags she adds small ornaments hung together and nestles pine cones throughout.

Chandeliers and mirrors. According to Sally, chandeliers and other lighting fixtures can add

berries and pine cones. The mantelpiece: A garland, no matter how ornate, is never enough to adorn the mantelpiece. Sally suggests clearing any knick knacks off the mantel and layering it with greenery, LED candles, cranberries and pine cones.

Festive feast: Sally wraps ribbon around the letters at craft stores and spray-paint them to spell out Noel, joy or whatever holiday phrase you wish.

Holiday lighting. Light is crucial year round, but even more so during the long, dark winter months.

The right kind of window treatments can make us feel comfortable, relaxed and really in tune with one another. For this purpose, Sally advises selecting Silhouette window shades. With its soft fabric vanes suspended between sheer panels, this treatment softens and diffuses the light for extra warmth in the room. Luminette Privacy Sheers are a similar concept on the vertical.

Chandeliers and mirrors. According to Sally, chandeliers and other lighting fixtures can add

to the holiday sparkle if you dangle glass and crystal ornaments from them. You can also put holiday-themed candle rings or bobeches on them. For extra shimmer, Sally places holiday wreaths and ornaments on mirrors using suction cups.

The details count in the powder room: Sally takes a bowl and fills it with cranberries to the top, puts a couple of asplins in the water and cuts

always uses a silver tray with a fluted rim and fills it with Epsom salt, which looks like snow, and serves as nice sitting for her formal salt and pepper shakers. In the centre, she will often place a crystal bowl with ornaments, fruits, greenery and even feathers. Or, she might use a cake stand.

The details count in the powder room: Sally takes a bowl and fills it with cranberries to the top, puts a couple of asplins in the water and cuts

white roses very short. When the roses open, the red and the white are beautiful and there are no stems showing.

If you would really like to go the extra mile, Sally even fills steampots, crystal bowls and pitchers in her china cabinets with pretty ornaments to add colour.

"With a little effort and imagination, the holidays can be all you ever wanted them to be, and don't forget to get every one to pitch in."

—www.newsCanada.com



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Influenza Immunization is now available, free of charge, to all Albertans six months of age and older.

UPCOMING CLINICS IN YOUR LOCAL AREA

Date:	Time:	Location:
Wednesday, December 18	10:00 AM - 4:00 PM	Drayton Valley Community Health Centre, 4110 50 Avenue Drayton Valley

Please bring Alberta Health Care Card. Short sleeves recommended.

For more info, including local clinic details, visit www.albertahealthservices.ca or call Health Link Alberta at 1-866-408-5465 (LHINK).

Office etiquette for the holidays

News Canada

Office gifts can get complicated around the holidays. Questions like what should you buy, how much should you spend, and what is an appropriate gift come to mind.

There is an etiquette that goes hand in hand with office gift-giving. These tips will help you stay in the good books with your boss and coworkers this year.

Company policies: Some organizations have HR policies around gift-giving and receiving. If you are new to a workplace it's best to connect with your HR department or ask several colleagues that have

been employed for a few years to see what typically occurs in the office around the holidays.

Personal gifts Avoid gifts that are overly intimate, the list includes items that can enhance appearances, undergarments, flowers, and perfume to name a few.

These types of gifts can be misunderstood by your colleague and place you in a bad position. If you are not sure if a gift is acceptable, it most likely isn't.

Spending: When buying a gift it is important to not overspend. Not everyone can afford to purchase lavish gifts, and you do not want to make a colleague feel obligated to reciprocate.

cate

Determine a budget and stick to it, remember there are great gifts out there for \$20 or less.

Gift suggestions: Holiday-themed gift baskets are nice and they don't have to be excessive. Retailers, such as office supply stores, carry a few varieties of Tassimo and Keurig products, along with mugs filled with sweets, coffee or tea, turning your office supply shop into a one-stop gifting destination.

Other office gifting suggestions include mobile skin notebooks, gift cards, business card cases, or a nice pen.

—www.newsCanada.com

advice



Working outside in warmer temperatures can be a nice way to spend the day, but when the readings on the thermometer drop it can not only be uncomfortable but dangerous as well. Taking breaks and taking steps to block yourself from things like the wind can help to reduce exposure, and dressing appropriately is one of the best ways to fight the cold weather and ensure that working outdoors isn't deadly.

Staying warm with outdoor jobs

Dear Working Wile:
I started working outside this summer and now this is going to be my first winter working outside in the cold. We've already had a cold snap and I know that it's going to get worse. Do you have any tips on staying warm?

Signed, Freezing

Dear Freezing:
Working in the cold can be uncomfortable and even dangerous. The cold is a hazard and so your employer should be monitoring the outside temperature and taking steps to protect you.

However, you also have a role to play in protecting yourself and your coworkers. You and your coworkers are the ones most likely to notice frostbite, hypothermia or dehydration. Here are some tips to help you stay safe and warm this winter.

Dress in layers — layers allow you to adjust as the temperature, wind and your physical activity level changes. This prevents you from getting too cold or too hot — causing you to sweat. Sweating makes you feel even colder when you stop.

Stay out of the wind — a mild 20 km/h wind can make -20°C feel like -30°C. If you can't work inside, try building a wind break.

Take frequent breaks — employers should provide a break schedule of regular rest breaks, based on the conditions, should be established to allow workers to warm up. Workers should be allowed to decide how often they need to take breaks — the schedule is just to ensure that you don't forget to stop and warm up.

Limit your exposure — get your tools and nails ready before you go outside. Work on small projects inside and then carry them outside for installation. Work outside during the warmer hours of the day

and work inside during the colder ones. Drink warm liquids to help you warm up and alternate with water or a sports drink. Caffeine speeds up your metabolism, causing you to sweat and possibly dehydrate and lose electrolytes.

Cover your head and hands — the greater the surface area of your skin is exposed, the more heat your body loses. Be careful, scarves and gloves can get caught in moving equipment.

Use enclosures and heating systems when possible, but be sure the area is well ventilated to prevent the build-up of carbon monoxide.

Know the signs of frostbite — a tingling sensation or skin that looks pale and waxy are the first signs of frostbite. Your hands, face and feet are at the greatest risk, because your body diverts blood away from your extremities first when it starts getting cold.

Know the signs of hypothermia — severe shivering is an early sign of hypothermia. A severely shivering worker should be warmed up immediately. Watch out for hazards — snow can hide trip hazards like extension cords or even icy surfaces. Wear proper footwear and mark or remove hazards.

Ask your co-workers — the people you work with have learned what works and what doesn't. Check out what they wear and ask them what they recommend.

For more information and tips, visit <http://www.humanresources.ca> and click on Best Practice — Working Safely in the Heat and Cold in Best Practices publications.

Do you have a work-related question? Send your questions to Working Wile, at charles@draytonvalley.ca. Charles Strachan is a manager with Alberta Human Services. This column is provided for general information.

Check us out online
www.draytonvalleywesternreview.com

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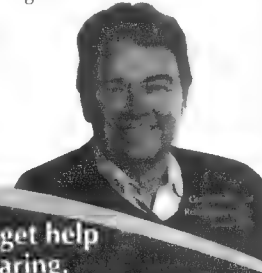
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SEKURA LIVESTOCK MARKET REPORT

Week Ending	Head Sold	Head
Powder Cattle		
Weight	132.145	118.134
9000	131.147	121.139
700-799	131.154	125.138
600-699	131.160	121.143
500-599	131.167	127.134
400-499	130.166	120.145
300-399	130.171	130.170
Other Cattle		
Yearling Cows	\$0.62	\$0.70
Yearling Bulls	\$0.75	\$0.85
Feeder Bulls	\$0.72	\$0.85
Feeder Steers	\$0.90	\$1.05
Brisk Cows & Heifers	\$0.00	\$1.25

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merry christmas

Don't let your Christmas tree lead to tragedy this year

Make sure your Christmas tree isn't posing a fire hazard for your family

News Canada

It's that Christmas holiday season, a most treasured time of the year. It's time of celebration, joy and goodwill, time with family and friends. It's a time when the most important moments are often marked by tragedy if precautions are not taken against a Christmas fire, according to the Canadian Safety

Council, every year about 400 Canadians lose their lives in an accidental household fire. In fact, it's during the festive season that the number of deaths caused by a household fire is at its highest.

Patrice De Luca, vice president of marketing and business development for Bellfire Protection Security Services, says the major culprit for this significant increase is the famed Christmas tree.

"You need to take every possible precaution to minimize the risks of fire, especially if you choose a natural tree," he added. "This is one of the greatest threats to your family and home. People

do not realize the emotional toll a fire can take, even if there is no loss of life." Here are safety tips to consider from Protection's Tree Safety Program:

- If possible, consider an artificial tree. They are much safer and cleaner.
- Leave the tree outside until you're ready to decorate.
- The tree stand should hold at least one gallon of water. It's crucial to check the water level every day.
- Detectors for smoke and carbon monoxide should be installed at strategic locations — your kitchen, stairwell, bedroom hallways and other high-risk household areas. Monitored smoke detectors can save lives by having oper-

ators standing by 24-7 and dispatching emergency services if required (for example if a fire occurs while sleeping).

- Keep the tree away from floor lamps, fireplaces, or other heat sources.
- Use only CSA-listed lights, and no more than three strands linked together.
- Use miniature lights, which have cool-burning bulbs.
- Turn off the Christmas lights when you sleep, or if you leave your home for very long.
- Examine light strings each year, discard worn ones.
- Fasten the bulbs securely and point the sockets down to avoid moisture

build up.

- Avoid overloading wall outlets and extension cords.
- Have an operable fire extinguisher readily available.
- Practice an escape plan at least once a year. Make sure the whole family is involved.
- Finally, make sure to dispose of your tree properly at the end of the season.

Protection's Saving Lives Program is offered free to families considering home security solutions. More information on the program or on fire safety and home security is available online at www.protection.com.

— www.news.ca



Bullying.

the
Alberta
way™

Stop Bill 46

In 1977, Premier Peter Lougheed promised that in all future contract negotiations, provincial employees would have the right to binding arbitration in lieu of the right to strike.

Now, Premier Alison Redford has rammed through Bill 46, which goes back on that promise and takes the right to arbitration away from 22,000 front-line government employees.

Redford's Bill 46 gives government the power to freeze wages, with no independent arbitrator determining what is fair and justified. That's not negotiating, that's bullying.

And bullying is not the Alberta way.

The Alberta way has always been to keep your promises and respect the rights of others.

Demand that Premier Redford scrap Bill 46 at TheAlbertaWay.com



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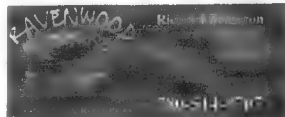
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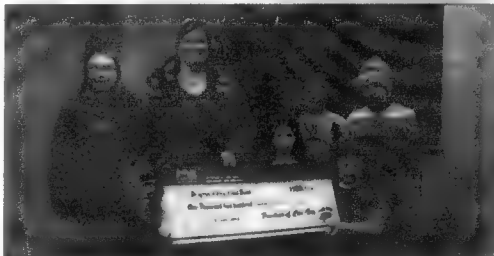
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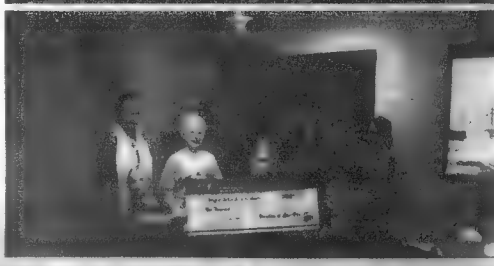
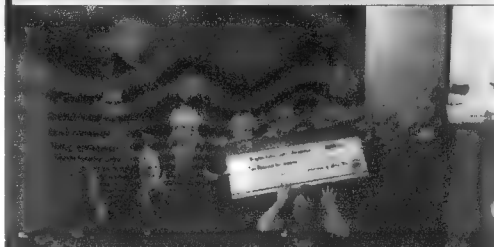
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community

SPIRIT OF GIVING



Can-Vac Drifted Services in Drayton Valley made some special announcements at its annual Christmas celebration, TOP. The Drayton Valley Food Bank was given \$1,500 by Can-Vac for its work feeding those in need in the community. MIDDLE, Drayton Valley Santa's Anonymous accepts \$2,500 from Can-Vac for its well-loved program of providing presents to help make sure every family has a joyous holiday season. BELOW, Warming Hearts Soup Kitchen accepts a cheque for \$1,000 from Can-Vac for its valuable work in Drayton Valley.



Classifieds

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Obituaries

BAINES,
Daniel (Dan) William
July 25, 1941 - Dec. 2, 2013

On Monday, December 2, 2013, Daniel (Dan) William Baines of Drayton Valley passed away at the age of 72 years. He leaves to mourn his loss and cherish his memory his son Michael of Calgary and his children, Anne and Gillian Baines and Finn Cahoon; two daughters, Jodie (Kelly) Ayotta of Drayton Valley and Jennifer, Trudy (Dwayne) Henley of Drayton Valley, and their children Daniel, Rachel, Andrew Greve and Alisa Henley; and one sister Patricia Silbernagel of Bowden.

Daniel was predeceased by his wife Sharon, grand daughter Sydney and by his parents Henry & Violet Baines. A Celebration of Life will be held on Monday, December 16th at 1:00 pm at the MacKenzie Centre in Drayton Valley with Dwayne Henley officiating.

The family would like to thank the Nursing Staff of the Drayton Valley Hospital for the wonderful care they gave dad. It will not be forgotten.

If friends so desire memorial donations may be made to the Alberta Cancer Foundation, Cross Cancer Institute, 11560 University Ave., Edmonton, AB T6G 1Z2.

Drayton Valley Funeral Services in care of arrangements.

Condolences: www.dvfuneralservices.com

FLORENCE (VI) SMITHSON

Peacefully on Sunday, November 24, 2013 at the Drayton Valley Hospital, VI Smithson aged 86 years passed away.

She is survived by her brother Douglas, her niece Shelley Smithson and her sons Justin, Dylan and Jason. Also surviving are numerous relatives and friends. She was predeceased by her parents, 6 brothers and 1 sister.

Cremation has taken place and no funeral services will be held at this time.

The family would like to extend their heartfelt thanks to the Drayton Valley Hospital Staff, to Dr. Murphy, and to the Mount Royal Care Centre for the care and compassion shown to VI, it will not be forgotten.

If friends so desire memorial donations may be made to the Alzheimer Society, 10531 Kingsway Ave, Edmonton, Alberta T5N 4K1 or to a charity of our's choice.

DRAYTON VALLEY FUNERAL SERVICES

are in care of arrangements. Call 1-780-542-5511

Online condolences
www.dvfuneralservices.com



Leo Berezowski
July 10, 1925 - December 01, 2013
On December 1, 2013 we unexpectedly lost a most treasured member of our family. Leo Berezowski, of Drayton Valley suddenly passed away peacefully in his home at the age of 88. Born in Datin, Poland, Leo moved to Alberta in 1929. He worked various jobs; in the sawmill, winnipeg, pipeline construction, before he began farming in the Violet Grove area, and finally retiring in Drayton Valley. Leo to mourn his passing are three brothers, John (Beatrice) of Violet Grove, AB, Sam of Toronto, ON, and Peter of Violet Grove, AB; and sister, Marie Draper of Edmonton, AB as well as numerous nieces and nephews. Leo was predeceased by his parents, Elym (Joe) and Nastasia (Nellie) Berezowski, and sisters, Martha Bitman and Anna Halcachinsky. As per Leo's wishes, no funeral service will be held. A private family burial will take place in the spring of 2014. Condolences: www.sevally.ca. Seavally Funeral Service, Drayton Valley (780) 542-3338

Lorne Webb
Sept. 11, 1930 - Nov. 26, 2013
On November 26 at the age of 83 Lorne passed away peacefully at his home in Drayton Valley. His wife Esther and his family would like to thank all his friends for their prayers and Dr. Botes and all the health care providers who helped care for him in his final days. There will be no services at his request but memorial donations can be made to the Alberta Cancer Foundation, 710, 10123 - 99 Street Edmonton AB T5J 3H1.

In Memoriam
able to those who are dear to us

In Memoriam

STAN WOLOSZYN
We have suffered since we lost you,
Life has never been the same.
In our hearts your memory lingers,
sweetly, tender, fond & true
There is not a day that we don't think of you!
Love always Margaret & Family

In Memory of Rob Cebulak
May 2, 1965 - December 11, 1982
A distant star lights up the sky
Your spirit soars while ours stay with us every day
And like photo will never fade away
Sadly missed and ever loved by Your Loving Family

Tim & Colleen Schura
are pleased to announce the engagement of their son
Cody
to
Tia Strauss
Wedding to take place July 5, 2014



Thank You Notes

Thank you

Our heartfelt thanks are extended to everyone who has helped us support in following the loss of our beloved husband, father and grandfather, Neil White.

Over the past few weeks, our families received countless expressions of sympathy including prayers, cards, food, flowers, phone calls and assistance at our farm. Each of these acts really appreciated. A huge thank you to everyone who was involved in planning and taking part in the memorial service celebrating Neil's life. To each person who attended, it was a true privilege and meant a great deal to us.

We are also grateful to the many people whose paths crossed with Neil in one capacity or another and have contacted us to share their memories and impressions of him.

Our extended family, neighbours, church families, friends and colleagues, your kindness and compassion have provided comfort and encouragement as we grieve.

With appreciation from the White family: Barbara, Skylar and Karen; Aileen, Jordan and Caitlin; Kelsey; and grandchildren.

Thank You

We wish to extend sincere thanks and appreciation to all the nursing staff and doctors at the Drayton Valley Hospital. Father Len and members of the Catholic Parish of the FV and the K of C.

To all our friends, who stayed with her twenty-four hours a day, co-workers, extended family and countless friends in the community for their compassion, care and unwavering support during her illness and passing.

Jim Lara and Duane

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Call 780-542-8729. 1-877-434-2685. Pregnancy Care Centre.

Rooms for Rent

Monthly rates include utilities, cable and shared facilities. Call 780-542-8729.

Your Home

Call 780-542-8729. After 5pm or before 9am.

Home for Sale by Owner

1980 - B-level Full Duplex. 1200 sq. ft. 1+1/2 baths. Call 780-542-8729.

Prime Downtown

Retail space for lease, 3200 sq. ft. Call 780-542-8729.

Families and Families

Apartments for Rent

1,2 bedroom suites for rent in a large complex. A great location. Call 780-542-8729. Call 780-542-8729.

New Ads

Unleash 5 bedrooms, huge lot, 100x150, 11000 sq. ft. Call 780-542-8729.

Rooms for Rent

Home heavily furnished to rent in a new house. Call 780-542-8729.

Personal Development

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Now Hiring
Full Time Sales Associate
3 nights a week / every weekend, responsible, reliable, willing to train
Please apply in person with resume to:
Mainstreet Plaza Liquor Store
5106 - 50 St. Drayton Valley, AB
or Fax: 780-621-0615
Attn: Michelle

COBALT CONTROLS LTD.
Is Offering Positions for:
• Journeyman & Apprentice Instrument Technicians
• Journeyman & Apprentice Electricians
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or fax 780-621-3927

Tim Hortons NOW HIRING
Full time, All shifts
Must be available weekends
FOOD COUNTER ATTENDANTS
\$11.25/hour No experience needed
Training provided. Surplus quickie program Tim Hortons products & follow Tim Hortons standards
IF YOU ARE
✓ **MOTIVATED**
✓ **FUN-LOVING**
✓ **LIKE FAST-PACED ENVIRONMENT**
BE A PART OF OUR DEDICATED TEAM!
Utopia Commercial Services Inc. a Tim Hortons
2649 - 50th Street, Drayton Valley, AB
Apply in person or online www.timhortons.com

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Find What You Want

Restaurant/Hotel
BLUE OASIS NOW HIRING
Full & Part time positions. Bartenders, Floor Person and waitresses. No exp. necessary.
Apply in person to 5178 50 Ave
Phone: 780-615-1564
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Shuttle Truck Driver
CLASS 4 AND HIGHER
Pays Well
Clean Drivers record
SHIFT: 5-8 am and 5-8 pm
E-mail resumes to: bbaumann@telus.net

Tim Hortons NOW HIRING
Full time, All shifts
Must be available weekends
FOOD SERVICE SUPERVISORS
\$13/hour 3-5 years experience
Supervise crew activities based on Tim Hortons standards
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FERREY GROUP HOLDINGS LTD.
Bookkeeper/Accounting
Ferrey Group Holdings Ltd. has an immediate opening for a bookkeeper (32 hours/week)
AP, AR, and general office duties
Knowledge of Word, Excel, and Simply Accounting is an asset. Flexible hours and competitive wages offered
Apply in person or online www.ferreygroup.com

LET'S ALL DO OUR PART! PLEASE RECYCLE.
CARDIUM
Cardium Well Services Ltd. is currently accepting applications for
DERRICK & FLOORHANDS
Current oilfield tickets and valid driver's licence is required.
Applicants will be subject to pre-employment drug screening. Competitive wages and benefits package offered.
Call 780.542.1000 or Fax: 780.542.3020 email: info@cardiumwell.com

OUTLAW OILFIELD SERVICES LTD.
Is currently accepting resumes for
DRIVERS & SWAMPERS
• Oilfield experience an asset
• Must have First Aid & H2S
• Must have Positive Attitude
Resumes can be dropped off at 6309 54 Ave or Emailed to Kent@outlawoilfield.com

WILF BRANDT TRUCKING LTD.
IMMEDIATELY HIRING!!
Wilf Brandt Trucking Ltd. is seeking motivated Class 1 and Class 3 Drivers to haul crude oil transfers in the Waburg, Thorburg and Drayton Valley areas. Previous field transfer experience is required. Also seeking EXPERIENCED VAC & PRESSURE TRUCK DRIVERS.
Successful candidates can expect year round work, excellent wages and an extensive benefits plan. Experience and safety tickets are a definite asset and willingness to work shift cycle a must.
Pre-Employment Screening is a pre-requisite to hire.
Please email resume along with a current driver's abstract to wbtg@gmail.com or fax to 780-648-7848.

FOXWOOD HOTEL FRONT DESK MANAGER
PERMANENT, FULL TIME
\$22.60/hr - 40 hrs week
Completion of High School required
No Experience
Duties: Recruit & Hire Staff
Supervise Staff. Perform front desk duties, etc.
Email resume: info@foxwoodhotel.com or call 780-542-2727
FULL & PART TIME POSITIONS
• Housekeeping Staff • Front Desk • Maintenance
Please email resume to: info@foxwoodhotel.com
To apply for resume to Steve: 780.542.2779 or drop off in person to: 5643 - 50 St., Drayton Valley, AB

NOW HIRING

Restaurant/Hotel
NOW HIRING
KITCHEN HELPER
Kitchen helpers perform some or all of the following duties:
• Wash and peel vegetables
• Wash work tables, cupboards and appliances
• Remove trash and clear kitchen garbage containers
• Unpack and store supplies in refrigerators, cupboards and other storage areas
• Sweep and mop floors, and perform other duties to assist cook and kitchen staff.
Permanent, Full Time, Shift, Weekend, Day, Evening
\$11.25 Hourly, for 40.00 Hours per week
Some high school education needed
No experience needed-employer will train
Apply by E-mail: draytonvalleytip@gmail.com

Skilled Trades & Construction
Find It In The Classifieds
Ponoka has openings for which tractor, power operators & bed truck drivers for Branch and Winter Camp Jobs.
Experience preferred, willing to train.
Competitive Wages and Benefits.
Fax resume to (403) 783-3011 or e-mail to hr@calhountrucking.com
www.calhountrucking.com
No phone calls please
Only individuals selected for an interview will be contacted

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NEWSPAPER

Jobs

NO ONE IS ALONE IN THE FIGHT AGAINST CANCER
No matter where you live or what type of cancer touches you, the Canadian Cancer Society is here to help. Get reliable information, talk to someone who's had a similar cancer experience or receive help getting to treatment.
Visit www.cancer.ca or call (519) 537-5592 or 1 888 939-3333.

Canadian Cancer Society
Société canadienne du cancer
1 888 939-3333 | www.cancer.ca



I will get through this.

IMAGINE THE DIFFERENCE A WISH CAN MAKE.

THE CHILDREN'S WISH FOUNDATION OF CANADA
Providing hope through the hurt

WWW.CHILDRENSWISH.CA
1-800-267-WISH



Children's
Wish
Foundation



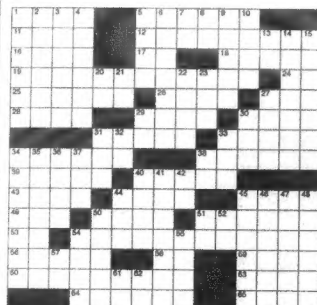
Make a free call and talk to a trained quit specialist. 1-877-513-5333

 **smokers'HELPLINE**
CANADIAN CANCER SOCIETY

DQ's Carrier of the Week!



Ben Dawes
Route 7
Thanks for doing an excellent job of delivering The Western Review each week!



CLUES ACROSS

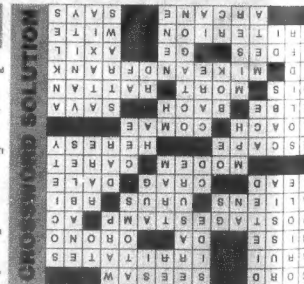
1. Blinder
5. Move up and down
11. Wild sheep of northern Africa
13. Annoys
16. An upward movement
17. Ducktail
18. Town in central Minnesota
19. Philanthropist's delight
24. Carrier's invention
25. Foreign travellers
26. Aerobics
27. Better advanced score
28. Show the way
29. Sleep rugged mass of rock
30. Valley
31. Digital data device
32. Insert mark
34. Breakout
38. Dissension from dogma

CLUES DOWN

1. Any wrist brace
2. Baltimore bird
3. Czar's nation
4. Regulated food
5. Space next to someone
6. Expansion
7. Trauma center
8. Spanish yes
9. Masters
10. Twist out of shape
11. Toward
14. Reader able for a task
15. An extended social group
20. Article
21. GMA anchor's initials
22. Director
23. Summer month (abbr.)
27. Not widely distributed
29. Plays great music
30. Female 1776 descendants
31. Speed gauge ratio
32. Old English
33. After B
34. Expressing sorrow

39. Kahl and clown fish
40. Unconsciousness
43. Czech River
44. Johann Sebastian
45. Flow to the Danube at Belgrade
49. World data organization (abbr.)
50. Comedian Sahl
51. Porch furniture wood
53. Potato state
54. American Pickers
56. Yellow-driver antiquities
58. Edison's company
59. Axis and offshoot angle
60. Standard
61. Scotch (Scottish)
64. Esoteric
65. Pronouns

35. More hearty, firmer
36. Tails
37. Single pig card
38. Soil state
40. A source of worry
41. Eight sided
42. Highest military award (abbr.)
44. Former Harvard Pres. Doree
45. Drinking buds
46. Loss of coordination
47. Self-drive
48. Tulus joint
50. Accumulator
51. Rural delivery
52. Lady Soul's initials
54. Prefix indicating subtraction
55. Hawaiian goose
57. Prince William's mom, Lady
61. Air organization (abbr.)
62. Farm's state



CROSSWORD SOLUTION

HOROSCOPES

ARIES Mar 21/Apr 20
Panicque is something new and interesting this week. Arise. The perfect activity will present itself in the next few weeks. Be sure to keep your eyes open.

Taurus Apr 21/May 21
Taurus, today any upcoming shopping excursions for the time being. Your coffers are getting a bit sparse, and you need to do something to cheer the rest of your family.

GEMINI May 22/Jun 21
Listen to advice this week. Gemini, loved ones only want to help and provide support, so long as you need them. It could be something completely innocent, but right now you're not sure.

CANCER Jun 22/Jul 22
Cancer, your responses may be assessed by someone who has been paying more attention - you have earned it. It could be something completely innocent, but right now you're not sure.

LEO Jul 23/Aug 23
Every day is a learning process. Leo, you will find that there are a number of new ideas swirling around in your head, and if you put one down, you may be on to something.

VIRGO Aug 24/Sept 22
Your colleagues at work may be making things difficult. Virgo, but there is nothing you can do about it right now. Just work your hardest, and things will turn out for the best.

LIBRA Sept 23/Oct 23
Libra, prepare to juggle multiple responsibilities in the coming days. It could be a multi-task and expect to be pulled in multiple directions.

SCORPIO Oct 24/Nov 22
Scorpio, a small misunderstanding turns into a larger battle this week. Be sure to have the power to face the issues out quickly by keeping a cool head.

SAGITTARIUS Nov 23/Dec 21
Sagittarius, you are having to reach far today that it almost seems like a game. Just don't get too caught up in the good times that you overlook your responsibilities.

CAPRICORN Dec 22/Jan 20
Capricorn, you usually take your responsibilities quite seriously, and that is often for the best. Just be sure to take your own responsibilities and have a little fun.

AQUARIUS Jan 21/Feb 18
Aquarius, new opportunities have begun to pop up for you. It is not up to you to figure out what is going on, though. Others will discover the truth.

PISCES Feb 19/Mar 20
Pisces, your head may be in the clouds, but it is quite comfortable up there. Just don't linger up there too long.

capture this new advertising opportunity for ONLY \$75/WEEK
(3 month booking with first right of refusal)
Please contact Kelly or Vicki - call 780-542-5380 or email dvwr@sunmedia.ca

community events

Dec. 12, 13, 14 - downtown Drayton Christmas market 7-9 p.m. at All Saints Anglican Church, Drayton, Ontario.
Dec. 13, 14, 15 - night at Drayton Valley Theatre presents the Christmas Classics. Come enjoy the fun and festive shows. Christmas Eve, 7-9 p.m. at 1230 p.m. at the Drayton Valley Theatre. Christmas Eve, 7-9 p.m. at 1230 p.m. at the Drayton Valley Theatre. Christmas Eve, 7-9 p.m. at 1230 p.m. at the Drayton Valley Theatre.

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CHURCH DIRECTORY

A LISTING OF DRAYTON VALLEY'S CENTRES OF WORSHIP
"Together For Transformation"

The Anglican Parish of All Saints'
3212 - 47 Avenue, Drayton Valley • Office Phone: 780-542-3668
SUNDAY SERVICES
REV. EMMA VICKERY
9:00 a.m. - Holy communion (Book of Common Prayer)
10:30 a.m. - Family Enrichment (Book of Alternative Services)
10:30 a.m. - Sunday School (every Sunday Sept. - June)
2:30 p.m. 1st & 3rd Sundays - Sunday Services at St. Paul, 4934 - 50 Street, EVANSBURG

DRAYTON VALLEY ALLIANCE CHURCH
Learning to love Jesus Christ and serve our community
Join us for Sunday Services at 10:30 am
Aurora School 390-155 Ave
Programs for all ages
Phone: 780-542-6001
Office at 4901 55 St
www.alliancechurch.ca

Calvary Baptist Church
"Bringing God's Truth to Life"
Worship Service 10:30 am
Everyone Welcome!
4401 - 50th Ave., Drayton Valley, AB
780-542-4774
www.calvarybaptist.ca

Drayton Valley Church of God 100th Anniversary
1912 - 2012
Representing Our Heritage, Embracing Our Future
5004 - 49 Street, Drayton Valley
Ph. 780-542-5091
Associate Pastor: Shelley Weather - Email: shellyw@chgd.ca
SUNDAY SCHOOL: 10:00 a.m. Sept-June
WORSHIP SERVICE: Sun. @ 11:00 a.m.
YOUTH: Fri. at 7:00 p.m. during the school year
L.G. available to assist with accessibility requirements.

Emmanuel Lutheran Church
4604 - 50th Avenue, Drayton Valley
Phone: 780-542-5101
Sunday Worship Service 10:30 a.m.
Bible Study 9:30 a.m.
Sunday School 9:30 a.m.
Rev. Steven Brownstein
Pastor
Website: emmanuelchurch.ca
Listen to the Lutheran Hour Sunday at 8:30 a.m. on 1260 CFER

ignited
CHURCH & MINISTRIES
4951 - 41 Avenue (across from Medical Clinic)
Pastors: Mark & Leanne Eschleman
SUNDAY SERVICE 10:30 a.m.
Please call our office at 780-542-5843
email: ignitedchurch@telus.net

ST. ANTHONY CATHOLIC CHURCH
4708 - 50 Avenue, Drayton Valley
Parish Office: 542-5254
Rev. Gary Lee
WEEKEND MASS SCHEDULE:
Saturday 5:00 p.m. Sunday 12:00 Noon

The United Church of Canada
* Sunday Worship at 10:30 am *
* Minister: Deborah Springer *
* Sunday School at 10:30 am *
Church Office 780-542-5743
Email: ducc@telus.net • Website: ducc.ca
5025 - 48 Street, Drayton Valley

VALLEY WORSHIP ASSEMBLY
Affiliated with the P.A.O.C.
Sunday Worship Service 10:30 am
Pastors: Doug Hale & Seth Shelley
Bible Study Wednesday @ 7 pm
Friday - Element Youth @ 7 pm
Located at Westwind Hotel, Lower Level
4225 - 56th Street, Drayton Valley, AB
For more information, please call (780) 899-5210

Life Church
Pastors: Randy & JoAnn Rye
Sunday
Wednesday
Friday
Contact
Office hours

homes

In case of fire

➤ Create a fire safety plan that considers the needs of everyone in your home

Steve Jacquini
Special to QM Agency

Every year, people are injured or put at risk because they haven't taken the time to consider what they will do in the event of a fire. People with disabilities and seniors are the most likely to be injured — often because they can't hear the alarm or are unable to evacuate quickly or independently. It's important to create a fire safety plan that considers the age and ability of everyone in your household.

Standard fire safety advice includes having a fire extinguisher readily available, keeping fire evacuation routes clear of clutter and not overloading electrical outlets. If you or a family member has an activity limitation or disability, you might need to take additional precautions, such as designing your kitchen so

Smoke alarms are an absolute necessity, and they're now available with combined audible and visual signals. There are also technical aids such as pagers, strobe alarms and pillow shakers that alert people who have a hearing impairment.

In most areas of Canada, 9-1-1 is the number to call in an emergency. Make sure you know the emergency num. et. You may wish to pre-program it into the phone to assist those who have a cognitive limitation or difficulty dialing.

People who have a hearing impairment or trouble speaking should consider having a text messaging system that enables them to type their message or send a pre-programmed message to the 9-1-1 centre. There are other assistive communication technologies, such as home automation systems that automatically dial the fire department if the smoke alarm is activated.

Evacuation is the most com-

mon fire safety strategy. Make sure that you have at least two escape routes, including the main accessible entrance, and that they are located away from each other. It's important to take into consideration every family member's abilities and limitations by installing handrails or ramps where needed. Matching a person who needs assistance with a "buddy" — a family member, friend or neighbour — who will guide the person out of the home is another helpful strategy.

Some fire departments maintain a registry of people who require extra assistance — check with yours. It's a good idea to practice your evacuation plan once a year; this will ensure everyone knows what to do and will show you any modifications that need to be made as family members' abilities change.

If you use a wheelchair, it is extremely important to participate in drills with those who will assist you. In some circumstances, your evacuation "buddy" might have to carry you. Several kinds of lifts and carries can be safely used, including the piggy back lift, the cradle lift and the blanket drag.

If you live in a high-rise building and have an activity limitation, contact your building manager to devise an evacuation plan specific to your needs. Some building codes require there to be an area of refuge, where a person who cannot evacuate independently can safely wait for assistance.

To help you learn more about planning for fire and emergency situations, including various communication technologies and assistive devices, Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation (CMHC) has an About Your House fact sheet called Accessible Housing by Design — Fire Safety for You and Your Home. Download your free copy at www.cmhc.ca.

— Steve Jacques is the Ontario Manager - Community Development, Research and Professional Services at Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation. You can reach him at sjacques@cmhc.ca.



Photo supplied/OMI Agency
Make sure your fire evacuation plan included the
ability of every member of your household.

CAUSE FOR CRITTERS
PET OF THE WEEK



CUSTOM EXECUTIVE HOME FOR SALE



- Bonus Room with floor to ceiling windows
- Maple cabinet & granite counter tops
- Custom trim package - mosaic back splash
- Stucco & rock exterior finish
- Completely finished 3 car attached garage - 1036 sq. ft.
- Drilled Well • Certified Mound Sewer System
- Front Covered Veranda & south facing rear deck

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Gail Bartlett
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Dee Katherman
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Katherine Day
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Gail Bartlett
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Dee Katherman
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Katherine Day
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